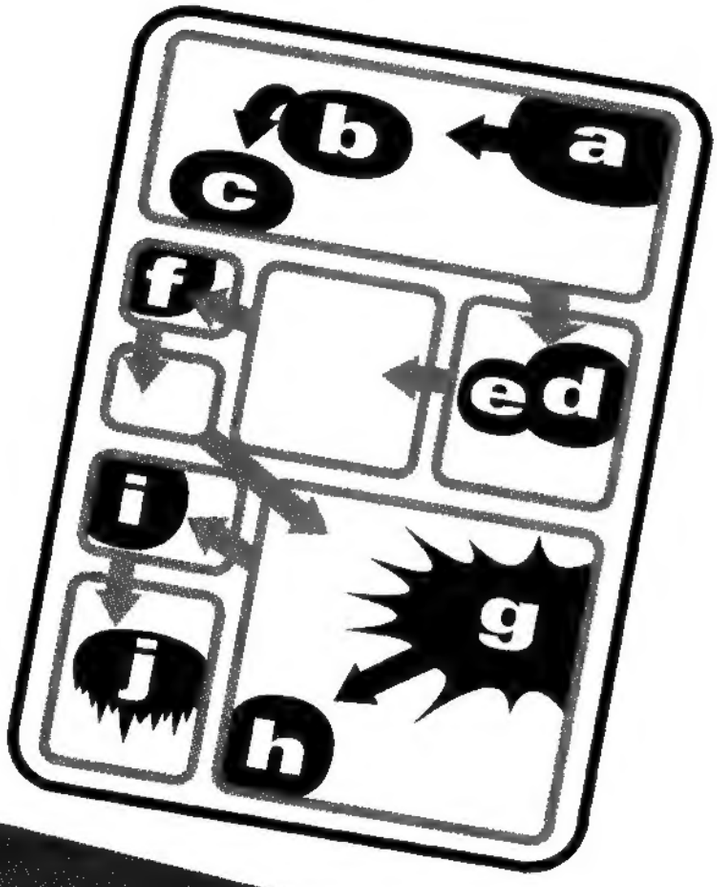
Testarotho
3
KEI SANBE

# FLIP IT!!

All the pages in this book were created—and are printed here—in Japanese RIGHT-to-LEFT format. No artwork has been reversed, so you can read the stories the way the creators meant for them to be read.

## RIGHT TO LEFT?!

Traditional Japanese manga starts at the upper right-hand corner, and moves right-to-left as it goes down the page. Follow this guide for an easy understanding.

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Testarotho
VOLUME 3
By Kei Sanbe

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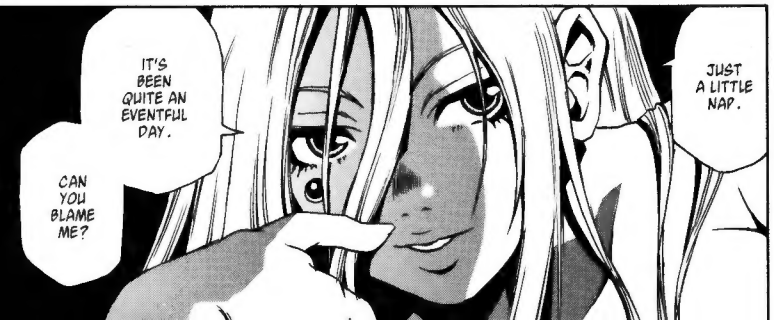
# Testarotho 3

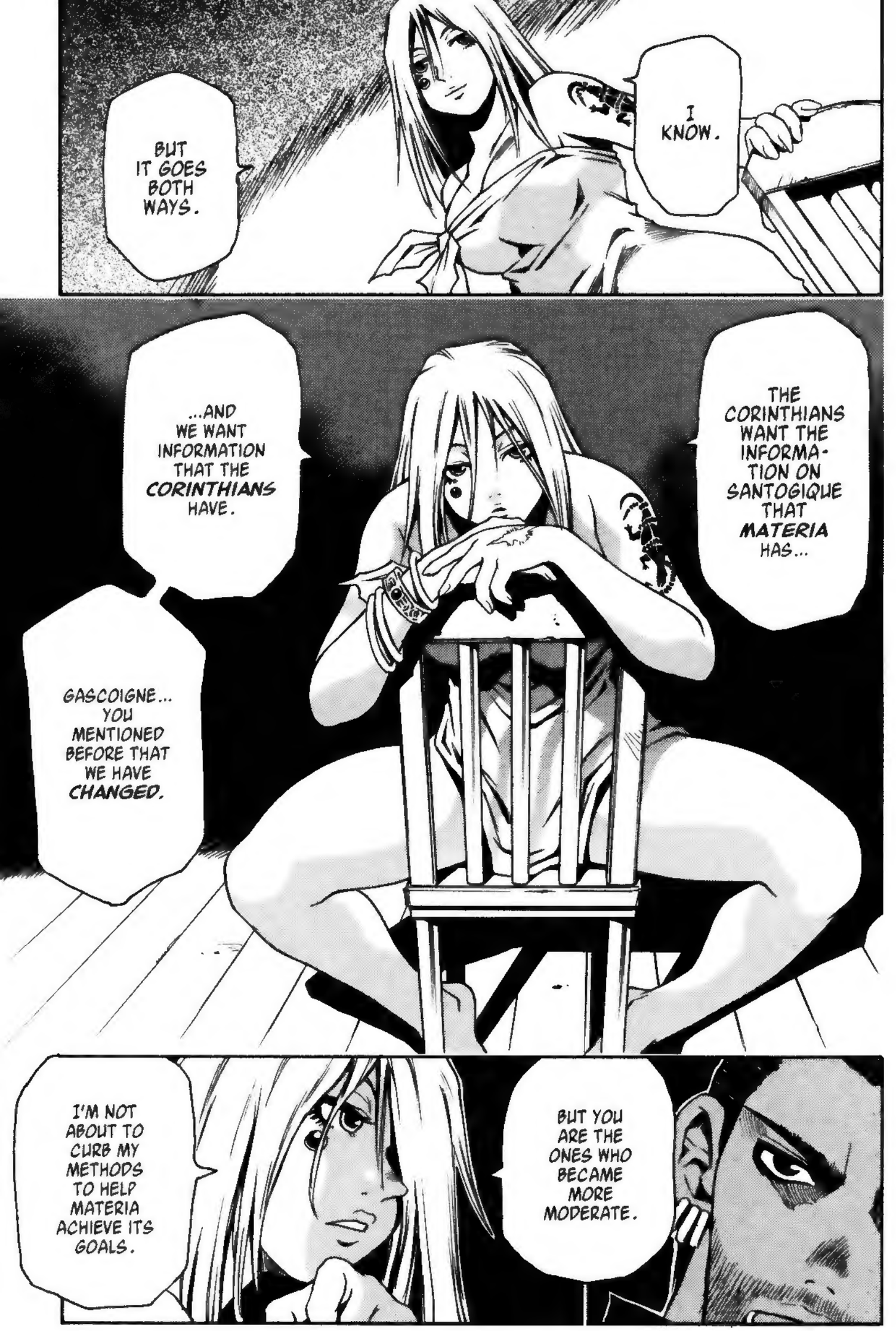
TMP
Chapter of Arsenal
Last Passage: Celebration
!
WHO'S THERE?!
IT'S ME.
IS MARTINA INSIDE?
GRAB
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT WITH HER?
HOLD IT!

UH...
...HUH.
SQUEEZE
CRACK
I'M JUST HERE TO SPEAK WITH HER.
NOW, NOW. NO NEED TO BE SO HOSTILE.

# Chapter of Arsenal Last Passage: Celebration

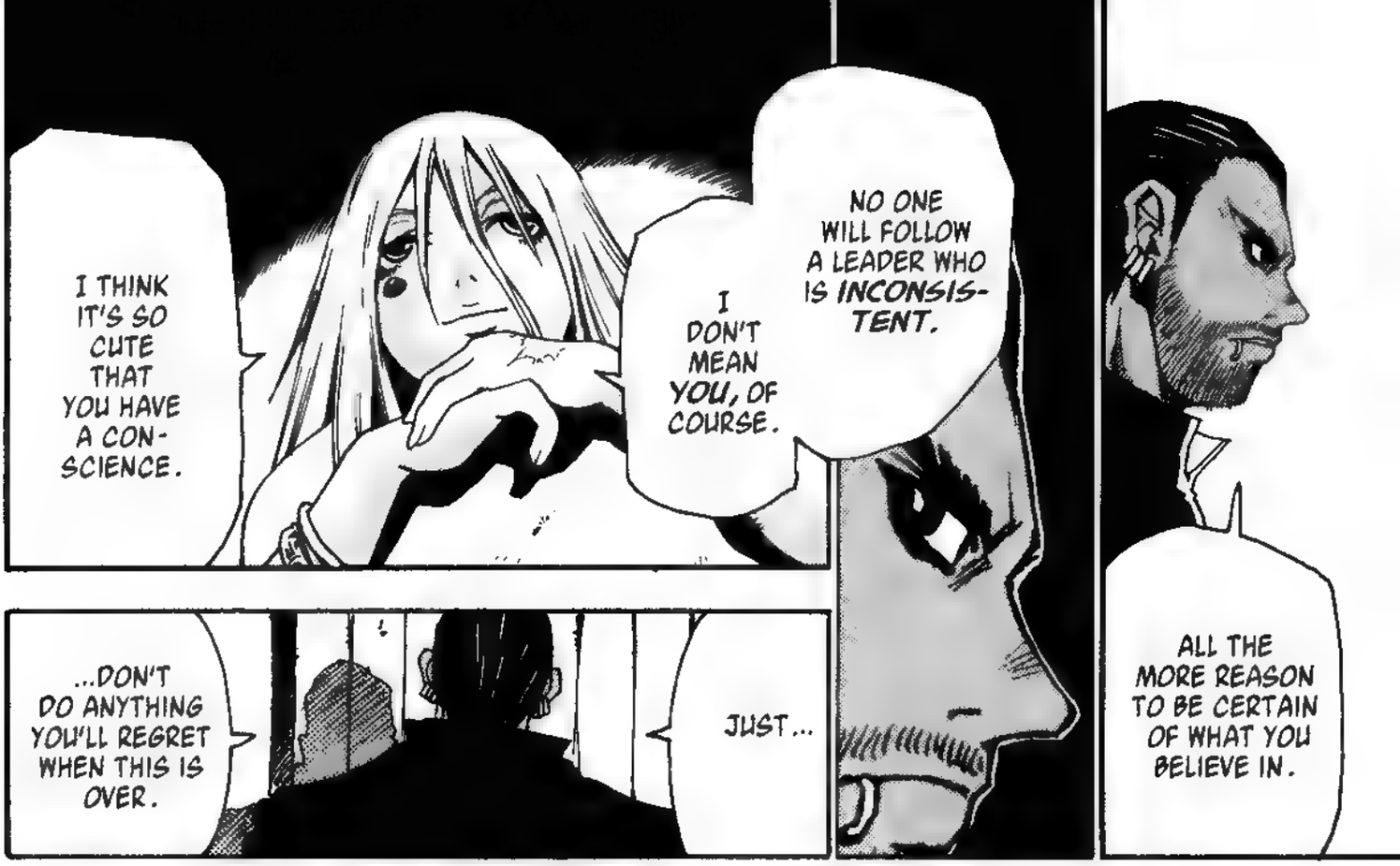


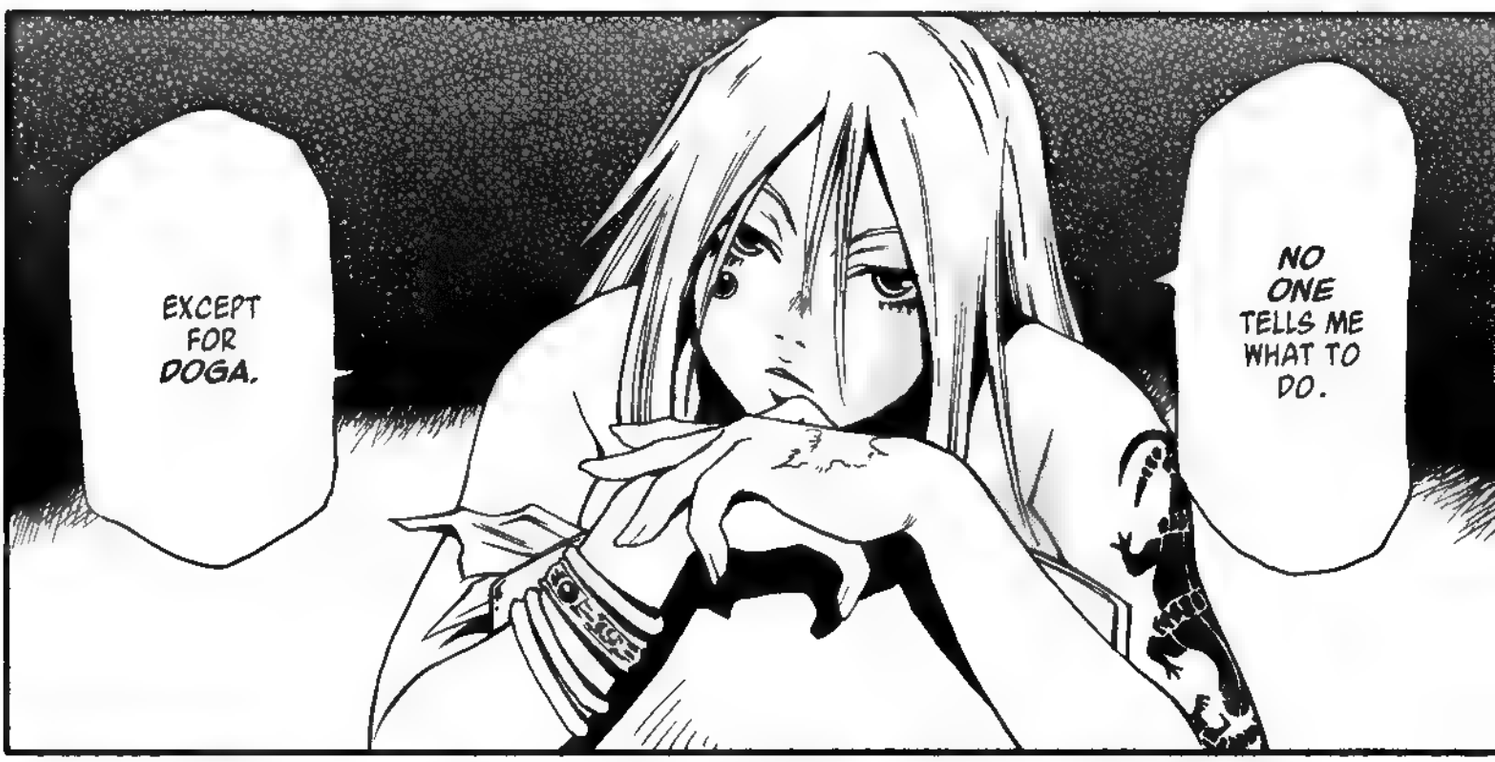
NOW I UNDERSTAND...
...WHY GARRINCHA AND HIS PEOPLE GOT SEPARATED.
IT SEEMED TOO WELL-ORCHESTRATED TO HAVE BEEN THE WORK OF SETENBURO SOLDIERS.
IT MAKES SENSE NOW THAT I KNOW YOU WERE INVOLVED.
I COULD SAY THE SAME THING.
MY COMRADES ARE INCOMPETENT, SO ANYTHING UNEXPECTED HAPPENS, IT'S UP TO ME FIX THINGS.
STOP CREATING EXTRA WORK FOR ME.
I SAW THE EXPLOSION AT THE PALACE.
THAT WAS YOUR HANDI-WORK, WASN'T IT?
SLIP
TUG
THEY'RE JUST TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOU.


I KNOW.
BUT IT GOES BOTH WAYS.
THE CORINTHIANS WANT THE INFORMATION ON SANTOGIQUE THAT MATERIA HAS...
...AND WE WANT INFORMATION THAT THE CORINTHIANS HAVE.
GASCOIGNE... YOU MENTIONED BEFORE THAT WE HAVE CHANGED.
BUT YOU ARE THE ONES WHO BECAME MORE MODERATE.
I'M NOT ABOUT TO CURB MY METHODS TO HELP MATERIA ACHIEVE ITS GOALS.

IT'S NONE OF MY CONCERN WHETHER THE OLD MAN IS GUILTY OR NOT.
THE CORINTHIANS BELIEVE THAT GARRINCHA IS BEHIND THE MURDERS.
YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR THE CAUSE...?
YOU DON'T HONESTLY BELIEVE IT WAS GARRINCHA AND HIS PEOPLE WHO MASSACRED THE BOJIK VILLAGERS.
BY HELPING THEM, I'M MAKING THINGS EASIER FOR US.
I'M DOING WHAT MUST BE DONE TO GET THE INFORMATION WE NEED.
SO, WHY WOULD YOU ASSIST THE CORINTHIANS IN CONDEMNING AN INNOCENT MAN?
I THINK YOU'D HAVE TO BE A FOOL TO BELIEVE THEM.
PLUS, IN EXCHANGE FOR OUR INFORMATION, THE ROYAL FAMILY HAS PROMISED TO GRANT US A TITLE OF NOBILITY. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.

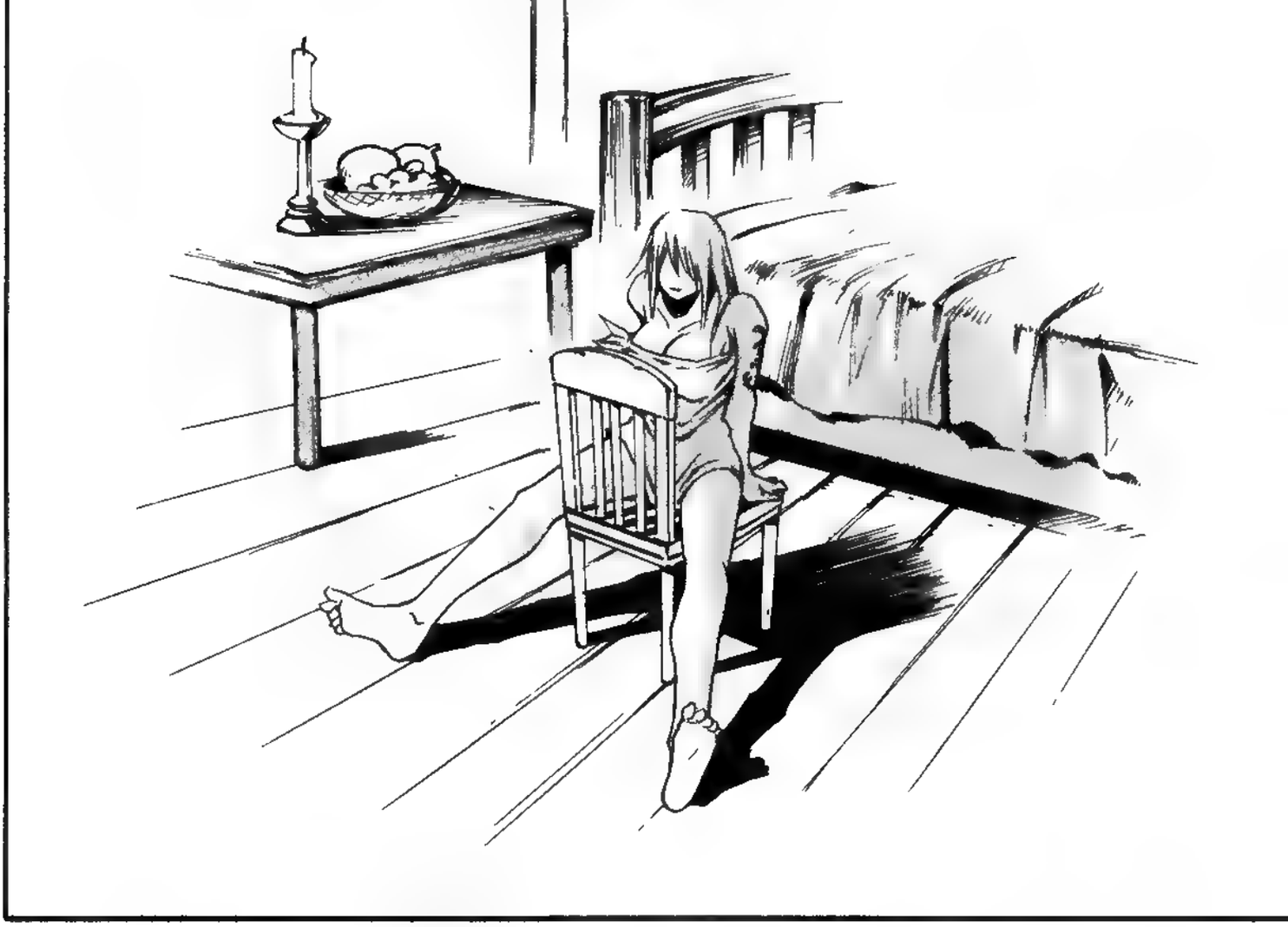
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, MARTINA? THIS ISN'T ABOUT THE CORINTHIANS. THIS THING WITH GARRINCHA WAS ALL SET UP BY ARSENAL.
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY'D FRAME ONE OF THEIR OWN...
...BUT THIS WHOLE THING STINKS OF A TRAP FOR MATERIA.
AND WE STEPPED RIGHT INTO IT.
I CAN FEEL IT.
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN IT'S BEST TO KEEP EMOTIONS AT BAY...
...BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN ONE SHOULD SHED THEM ENTIRELY.
IT ISN'T GETTING TOO HOT FOR YOU, IS IT?
I KNOW YOU HAVE A SOFT SPOT FOR OLD GARRINCHA...
...BUT IF YOU DON'T STOP BEING SO EMOTIONAL, YOU'RE GOING TO GET HURT.
THIS IS A PIVOTAL TIME IN OUR PLAN.
CHARITABLE IDEALS AND THE NEEDS OF OUR MISSION...
...DON'T NECESSARILY OVERLAP.


I THINK IT'S SO CUTE THAT YOU HAVE A CONSCIENCE.
I DON'T MEAN YOU, OF COURSE.
NO ONE WILL FOLLOW A LEADER WHO IS INCONSISTENT.
ALL THE MORE REASON TO BE CERTAIN OF WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN.
...DON'T DO ANYTHING YOU'LL REGRET WHEN THIS IS OVER.
JUST...


EXCEPT FOR DOGA.
NO ONE TELLS ME WHAT TO DO.

YEAH.
IS THIS ALL YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?

...DOING ALL RIGHT?
IS LUCICCI...
GOOD.
SHE'S DOING FINE.
YEAH.
HM...
SHE'S...
...A LOT LIKE YOU USED TO BE.



.....

FWAP

JUDGING BY THE WAY THEY FOUGHT, THEY MUST HAVE BEEN WITH **MATERIA.**
THOSE DEFINITELY WERE **NOT** CORINTHIANS' SOLDIERS.

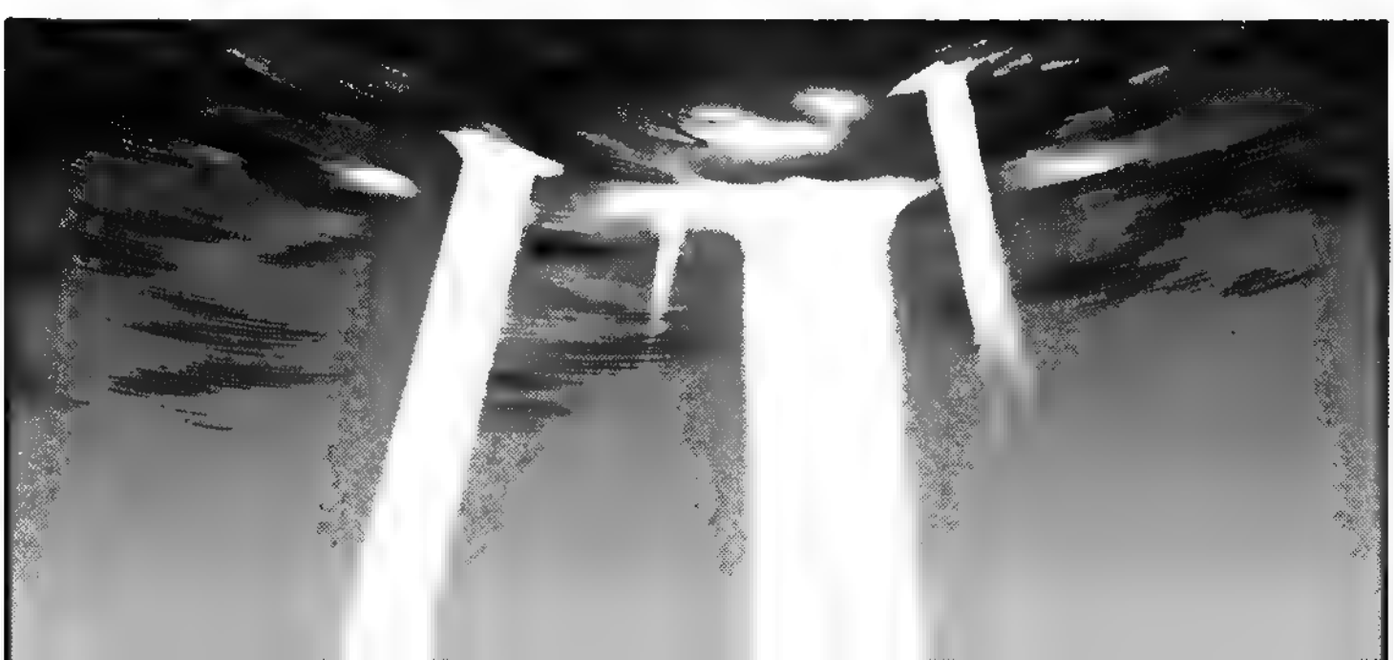
...AND I FOLLOWED THEM HERE.
THEY RAN AWAY SHORTLY AFTER WE STARTED FIGHTING...
BUT WHY?

WHY WOULD THEY LEAD ME **AWAY FROM** MY ENEMIES?
RIGHT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT WALL, THE STREETS ARE CRAWLING WITH CORINTHIAN SOLDIERS.

...THEY DIDN'T WANT ME TO GET CAUGHT.
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE...
UNLESS...

TIE
TU
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

TWIRL
GRAB
HUP
TOK
NGH!
DRIP



I, WHO FAILED TO PROTECT YOU...
...I, WHOSE EYES CAN SHED NO TEARS...

ELDIUS.

STAB
DRIP

...YOU TREATED ME AS IF I WERE YOUR SON.

I AM PROUD TO HAVE SERVED BY YOUR SIDE...

...GARRINCHA, MY FATHER.

LEONEUS!
...
UM...I KNOW THIS IS PROBABLY BAD TIMING, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE SUCH A FACE!
FATHER GARRINCHA'S SPIRIT CAN'T FIND PEACE WITH YOU LIKE THIS.
HE DIDN'T BLAME YOU FOR HIS DEATH.
SO PLEASE...
...PLEASE STOP BLAMING YOURSELF!

SHE MAY BE RIGHT.
SURELY GARRINCHA WOULDN'T WISH...
...THAT I CONTINUE TO LIVE MY LIFE FULL OF REGRETS.
I KNOW HE WOULDN'T WANT ME...
...WALKING THE PATH TO HELL...
...IN THE NAME OF REVENGE.
GARRINCHA
WRAP
KA-CHAK
EVEN SO...

...CAPRIA...
...EVEN THOUGH...
...I SEEM DRIVEN BY HATRED OR VENGEANCE...
...IT'S BECAUSE WHEN THE MAN I LIVED TO PROTECT WAS KILLED...
...THOSE WERE THE ONLY FEELINGS THAT REMAINED.
ALL MY OTHER EMOTIONS DIED WITH GARRINCHA.
I WILL...
...HUNT DOWN MY ENEMIES...
...NOT JUST TO PROVE...
...MY FATHER'S INNOCENCE...

...TO PROTECT...
...THE WORLD HE LEFT BEHIND.

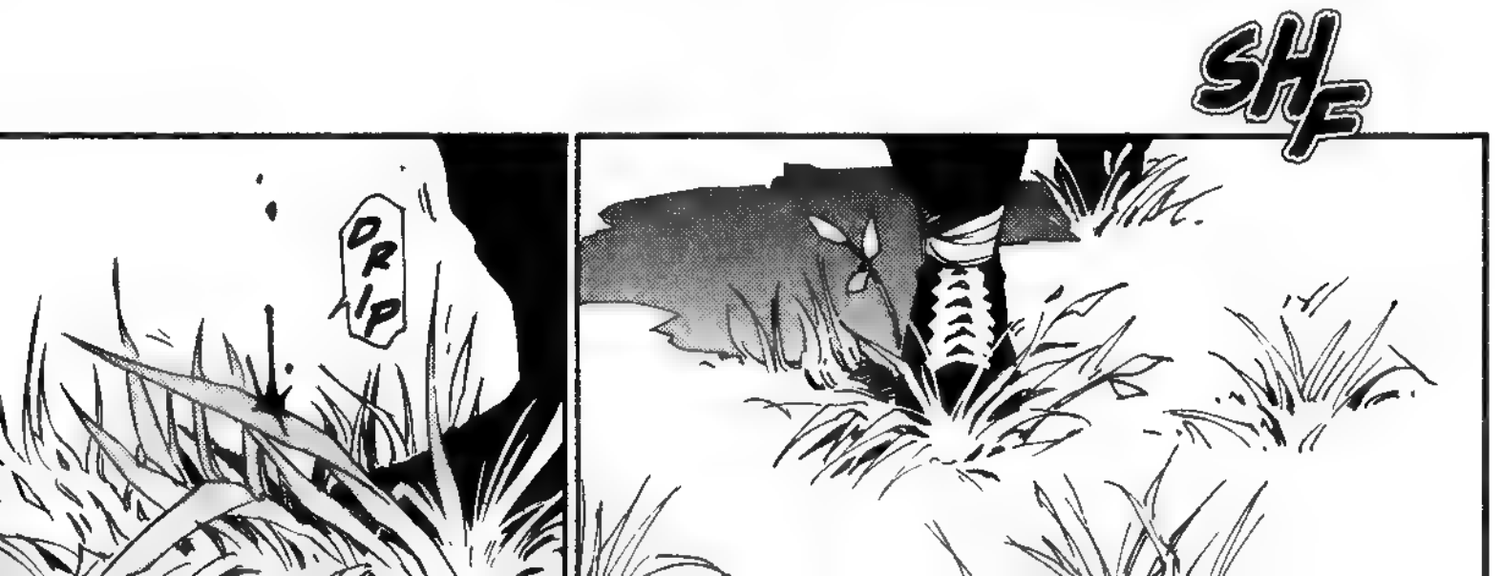
...BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE...

THE SKY LOOKS LIKE THE PAINTING ON THE CATHEDRAL CEILING...
...I BELIEVE THE TITLE OF THE PAINTING WAS...
"...CELE-BRATION."
KA
KAK
...CELEBRATION!

IGA
BOOM

End of Chapter of Arsenal: Last Passage

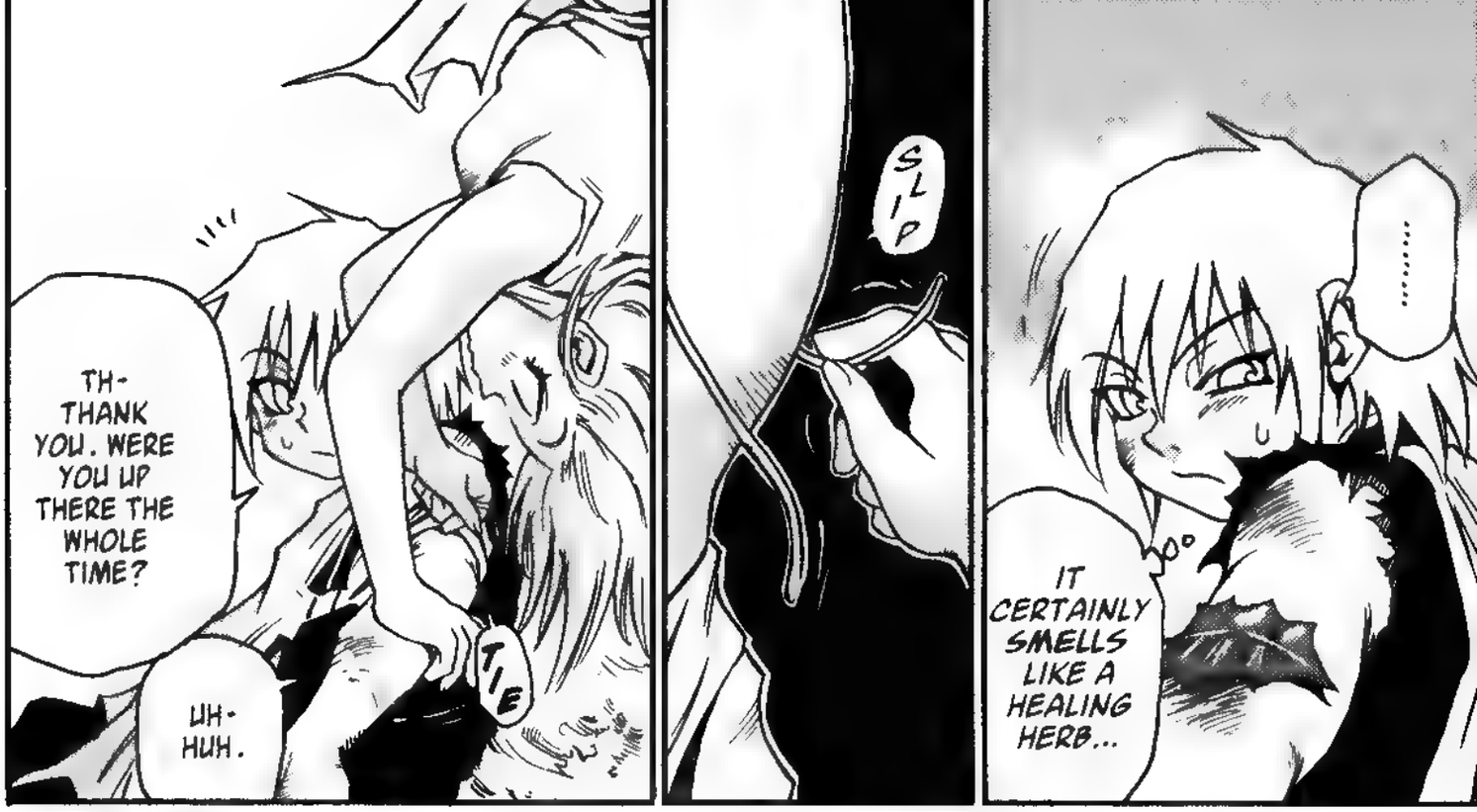
# Chapter of Materia 1st Passage: Hunter and Hunted



THERE WERE FAR TOO MANY SOLDIERS FOR JUST THE TWO OF US.
SHF
THIS REALLY WAS NOT OUR DAY.
DAMN.
SLUMP

I WONDER IF LEONEDUS AND HIS GROUP...
...WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE SAFELY?
SHIT... I CAN'T EVEN LIFT MY ARM.
I'D BETTER FIND SOME HERBS TO HEAL THE WOUND.
!!
SHOOP

# Chapter of Materia 1st Passage: Hunter and Hunted


TH-
THANK
YOU. WERE
YOU UP
THERE THE
WHOLE
TIME?
UH-
HUH.
TIE
SLIP
.....
IT
CERTAINLY
SMELLS
LIKE A
HEALING
HERB...

SO...
UH...
WHAT'S
YOUR
NA--
WAH!
SST

I...
I SEE.
I'M
GINORA.
I HAVE
NO IDEA
WHAT'S
HAPPENING
ANY-
MORE...
LUCICCI.

AH... UM...
COME WITH ME. I'LL MAKE YOU SOME SOUP!
I WAS ONLY STOPPING FOR A MOMENT.
WHO SAID I WAS TRYING TO SLEEP?
YOUR CLOTHES ARE STILL WET FROM THE RAIN, AREN'T THEY? IF YOU SLEEP IN THOSE YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
SHE... SEEMS LIKE A NICE ENOUGH GIRL...I THINK.
SHF
SHF
...

THEY ARE...
I SEE.

...AN ARSENAL PRIEST, NO LESS.

LUCICCI.
WOOF
WOOF
GRANDPA?

OH, MY...
AND THIS TIME...
IT APPEARS YOU'VE PICKED UP ANOTHER STRAY.
LICK
LICK

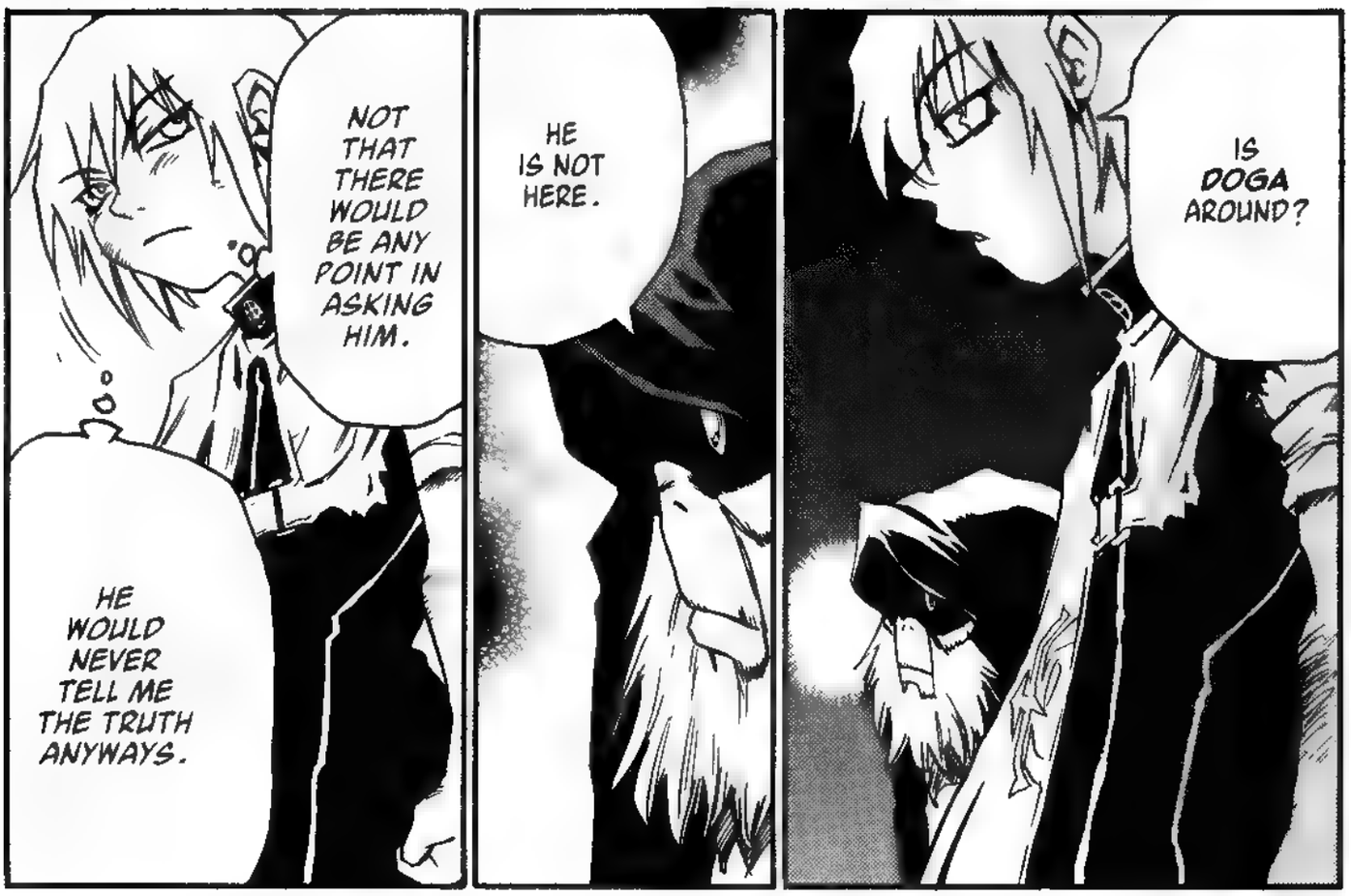
YOU GUYS BELONG TO...
...MATERIA, DON'T YOU?
PLEASE, STAY HERE AND GET SOME REST.
YOU SEEM TO BE INJURED, YOUNG MAN.

...WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
ASSUMING THAT WE ARE...

.....
THIS CAMP IS NOTHING LIKE WHAT I WAS LEAD TO EXPECT.

ARSENAL HAS ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY.
THEY TEACH ONLY THE "TRUTH" THAT FITS THEIR NEEDS.
HOW DARE YOU CRITICIZE ARSENAL, ELYSIA* TRAITOR!

*ELYSIA IS THE ARSENAL TERM FOR HERETIC.



.....
SOR-CERER DOGA.
HE IS THE LEADER AND FOUNDER OF MATERIA.
SUPPOSEDLY, HE'S SO DEADLY THAT NONE OF THE INQUISITORS OR SOLDIERS WHO WENT AFTER HIM SURVIVED.
TO AVENGE HIS FAMILY MEMBERS, WHO WERE BURNED AT THE STAKE BY ARSENAL PRIESTS, HE'S HELL-BENT ON DESTROYING ARSENAL.
PERHAPS THAT'S WHY HE HAS A TATTOO OF A FLAME ON HIS FACE...
...AND USES BLACK MAGIC TO MANIPULATE FIRE.

APPARENTLY HE USES SANTOGIQUE SORCERY THAT EVEN THE ARSENAL COUNCIL DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT.
WE ARE TOLD NOT TO FIGHT HIM BY OURSELVES.
.....
IT SOUNDS AS IF, AS USUAL, YOU'VE ONLY BEEN TOLD HALF-TRUTHS.
I HAVE NO REASON TO HIDE IT FROM YOU AT THIS POINT.
AS YOU GUESSED, WE BELONG TO MATERIA.
!
STRIDE
FATHER! DON'T DO THIS!
YOU WOULD TRUST OUR SECRETS TO ONE WHO KNOWS NOTHING BUT LIES?!

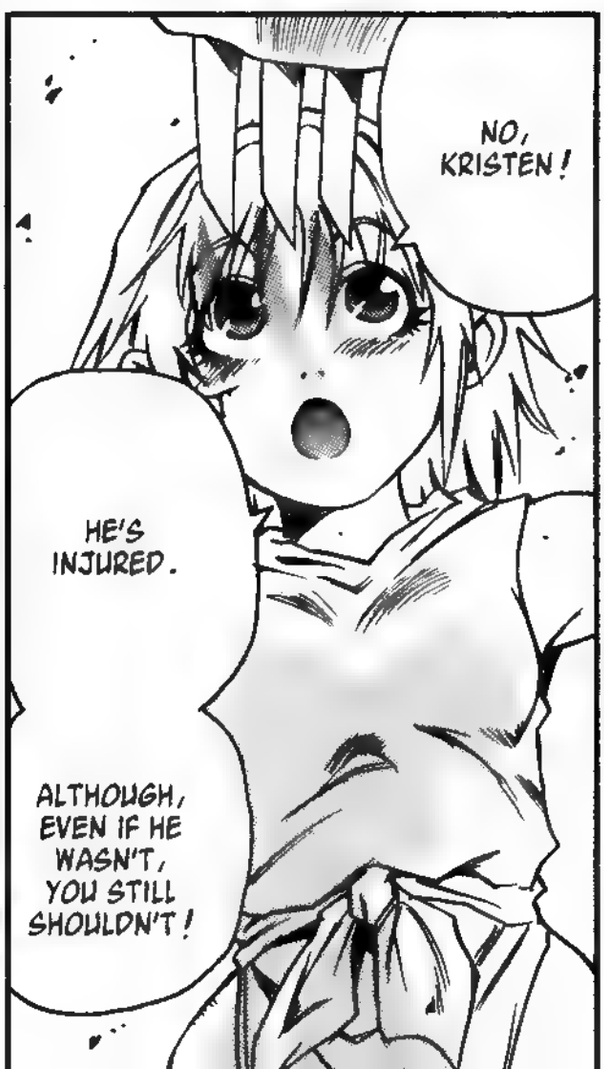
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOLD...
...THAT MY ENEMY IS ANYONE WHO GOES AGAINST THE TEACHINGS OF ARSENAL.
AND MY HEART SAYS, THAT MEANS YOU.
CHING
BESIDES, THIS GUY'S EYES REVEAL THE TRUTH.
WAIT, BOTH OF YOU!
LOOK TO YOUR HEART! WE ARE NOT ENEMIES HERE!

NO!
SLICE
FWIP
!!
FWISH
SLASH
AGH!!
RASHING

.....

TH--
THIS GIRL...?

...WENT OUT AGAIN...
FWUMP
M-MY BACK...


NO, KRISTEN!
HE'S INJURED.
ALTHOUGH, EVEN IF HE WASN'T, YOU STILL SHOULDN'T!

PHEW...
:

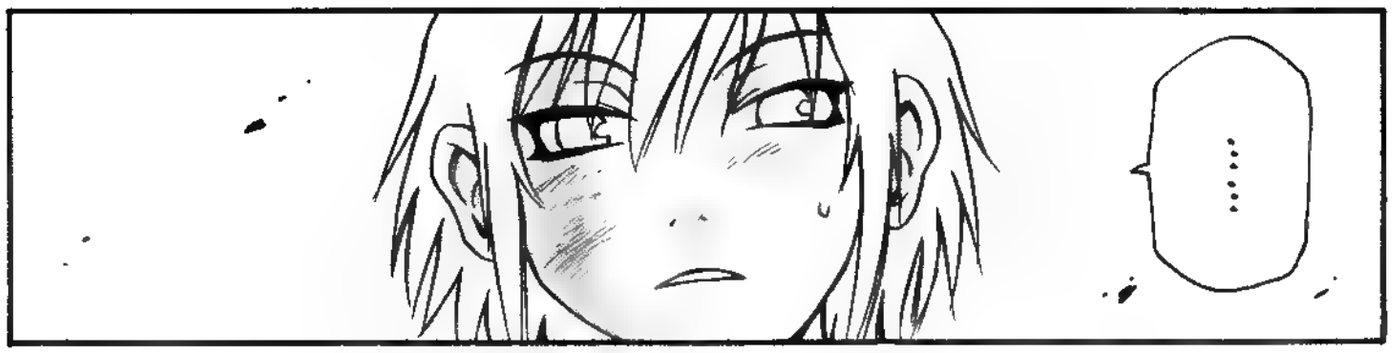
CLANG
TWITCH
I HESITATED.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME...?
I COULD HAVE KILLED THEM ALL...
...THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
NOT REALLY...
IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF YOU HAD TO KILL US BEFORE WE COULD EXPLAIN OURSELVES TO YOU.
THAT WAS VERY FORTUNATE.
UH... SURE.
SOUP IS READY! WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
HEY!

.....

I FOUND THEM.

FOO
FOO
SLURP
...
ARE YOU A PRIEST?
YOU POOR THING. YOU LOOK AWFUL.
I-I'M FINE.
ARE YOU STILL IN PAIN?
HUH?
GASP

CHATTER
WELL, HURRY UP AND TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF!
YOUR SLEEVE IS MISSING. I'LL SEW YOU A NEW ONE.
GIVE ME YOUR CLOTHES. I'LL WASH THEM FOR YOU.
CHATTER
PLEASE, RELAX.
CHATTER
CHATTER
HEY...
JUST A...
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, DON'T HESITATE TO ASK!
CHATTER
CHATTER
FOR AN ARSENAL PRIEST, HE'S VERY HANDSOME! ♥
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, YOUNG TAROTH.
NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, YOU'RE ONE OF THE FAMILY.
HERE YOU GO. PUT THESE ON.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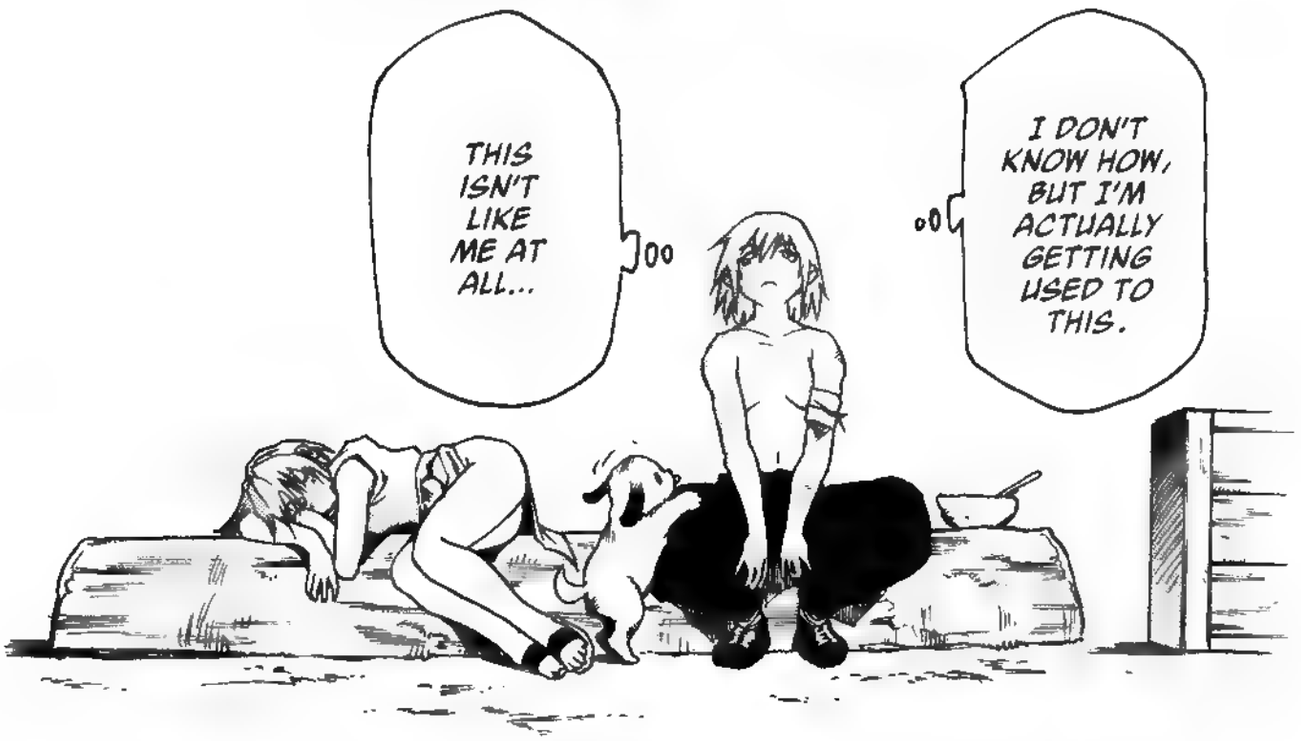
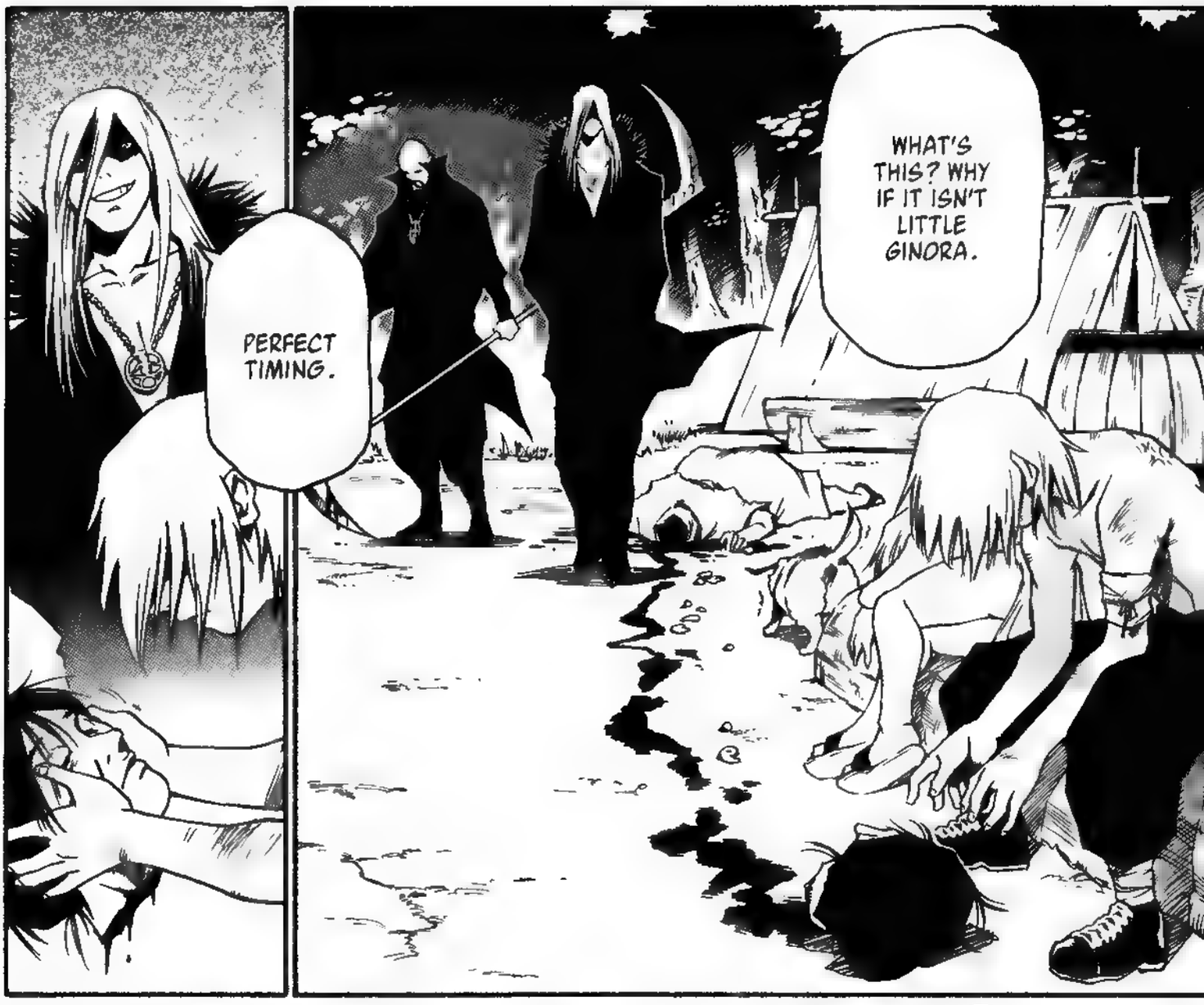

THIS ISN'T LIKE ME AT ALL...
I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT I'M ACTUALLY GETTING USED TO THIS.

GRRRR...
TWITCH

ROLL
ROLL


PERFECT TIMING.
WHAT'S THIS? WHY IF IT ISN'T LITTLE GINORA.

WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.
End of 1st Passage

WOOF
WOOF
GASP
DASH
WOOF
WOOF
WHAT AN ANNOYING MUTT.
KA
SWISH

# 2nd Passage: Execution Begins

KER
THINK
Woosh
SPURT
!

IF I DIDN'T KNOW ANY BETTER, I'D SAY YOU'RE TRYING TO PROTECT THEM.
UH-HUH.
ISN'T THIS...
...A MATERIA CAMP?
...ARE YOU NOW ALLIED WITH MATERIA?
OR...
.....

WHAT?!
NOT THAT IT MATTERS. YOU'RE ALL SENTENCED TO DEATH ANYWAYS.
NEO ARSEN WILL RESPECT THE CORINTHIAN JUDGMENT AND RENDER THE SENTENCE TO THE FUGITIVES OURSELVES.
...GARRINCHA AND HIS GROUP WERE CONVICTED BY OFFICIALS IN SETENBURO.
FOR THE MASSACRE OF THE BOJIK VILLAGERS BY AN UNFAIR TRIAL...
IT CANT BE!
NEO ARSEN WILL RESPECT...
AGAINST US?!

SHOOH
SHIT! I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT...
!
KLAWell
GRAB
GET OUT OF THE WAY!
LUCICCI!
!

YOU HAVE A FRIEND. THAT'LL MAKE THINGS MORE INTERESTING.
I SEE.
...MY FRIEND.
HE IS NOT...
...
WISH!
...AND IN SETENBURO.
THANKS TO YOU, WE'VE ROOTED OUT MORE OF THE MATERIA SCUM.
I ADMIRE ALL THE HARD WORK YOU AND THE REST OF GARRINCHA'S TEAM PUT FORTH.
NO MATTER. HE'LL DIE SOON ENOUGH.
BOTH HERE...

AS A SHOW OF THANKS...
...I'LL SAVE YOU THE AGONY OF BEING BURNED AT THE STAKE.
INSTEAD, I'LL JUST SEND YOU TO HELL RIGHT HERE.
♥
LIPPE.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONES...
...WHO MURDERED THE BOJIK VILLAGERS.
.....
SOLSKIA.
AREN'T YOU?
I SEE...
...YOU DON'T WANT TO BRING ME BACK TO NEO ARSEN, DO YOU?
CHUCH

AS SOON AS WE ENTERED THE CITY...
...THE HEAD OF THE SETENBURO COMMITTEE ARRESTED US AND PUT GARRINCHA ON TRIAL.
IF WE WERE TO INVESTIGATE HIS BACK-GROUND, I GUARANTEE YOU, WE WOULD UN-COVER A CLOSE CONNECTION WITH MATERIA.
IT WAS ONLY LAST NIGHT THAT THEY SENTENCED GARRINCHA TO DEATH.
IF NEO ARSEN ALREADY HAS A STANCE ON THIS ACTION...
...THEN THEY MUST HAVE KNOWN THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN TO GARRINCHA.
WE WERE SENT HERE...
...AS DECOYS.
SHUT YOUR MOUTH.
YOU'RE VERY CLEVER. ♥
CLAP CLAP CLAP
SO IMPRESSIVE, MY LITTLE GINORA.

I'M GOING TO CHOP YOUR GOD DAMNED HEAD OFF.
DON'T YOU DARE TREAT ME LIKE A CHILD.
OH! WHAT'S THIS BEHIND YOU?
...THAT IT'S DANGEROUS TO START A FIGHT WHEN YOU'RE EMOTIONAL?
DIDN'T THEY TEACH YOU AT THE GARDEN...
THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU.
OOPS.
SINCE YOU LEFT NEO ARSEN, THERE'S BEEN A CHANGE OF POLICY.
AS OF NOW, ANYONE IDENTIFIED AS A MEMBER OF MATERIA, EXCEPT FOR TOP LEADERS...
...IS TO BE EXECUTED ON SIGHT, WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF TRIAL.
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE...?
.....

EVERY-ONE, SING ALONG WITH ME!
THE WILL OF GOD, OF COURSE!
YOU DAMN TESTAROTHO!!
O' ELDIUS, WE SING TO THEE--
STAB
FOOL!
!

SPLAT
OH, YOU MATERIA MEMBERS...
...!!
...
...ALWAYS SO DE-TERMINED.
MY, MY, WHAT'S THIS?
I DIDN'T SEE YOU PUT IT UP.
IMPRESSIVE, LITTLE GINORA.
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
IT COULD HAVE BEEN PAINFUL IF I'D MOVED FORWARD.
...

ENOUGH WITH THE FOREPLAY.
IT'S SHOW-TIME. ♥
LICK
WHAT ARE YOU STILL DOING HERE?! GET OUT OF HERE, NOW!
THE CARRIAGE! GET THE CARRIAGE READY!
GINORA!
KRISTEN!

RUN!
THERE'S NO POINT IN FIGHTING!
CRACK
RUSTLE
?!
THONK
GRIN
UGH!

GUH...!
!!
WHAK
YOU SHOULD PAY ATTENTION. ♥
UGH!
...ARE ENJOYING THE SLAUGHTER!!
TH-THESE GUYS...

YOU'VE ALWAYS HATED MATERIA, TOO.
WHY DO YOU CARE HOW MANY OF THEM DIE?
EVERYONE WHO WORKED WITH GARRINCHA BECAME SO WEAK.
I DON'T GET IT.
WHY DO YOU HELP THEM OUT?
THD THD THD
WEAK, HUH? HE MAY BE RIGHT.
BUT NOW THAT I'VE BEEN BETRAYED BY MY OWN PEOPLE...
...I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT!
SOMEHOW MY BODY STILL HAS THE WILL TO STAND.
THAT'S RIGHT. WHAT I'M DOING NOW, SHIELDING THESE PEOPLE...

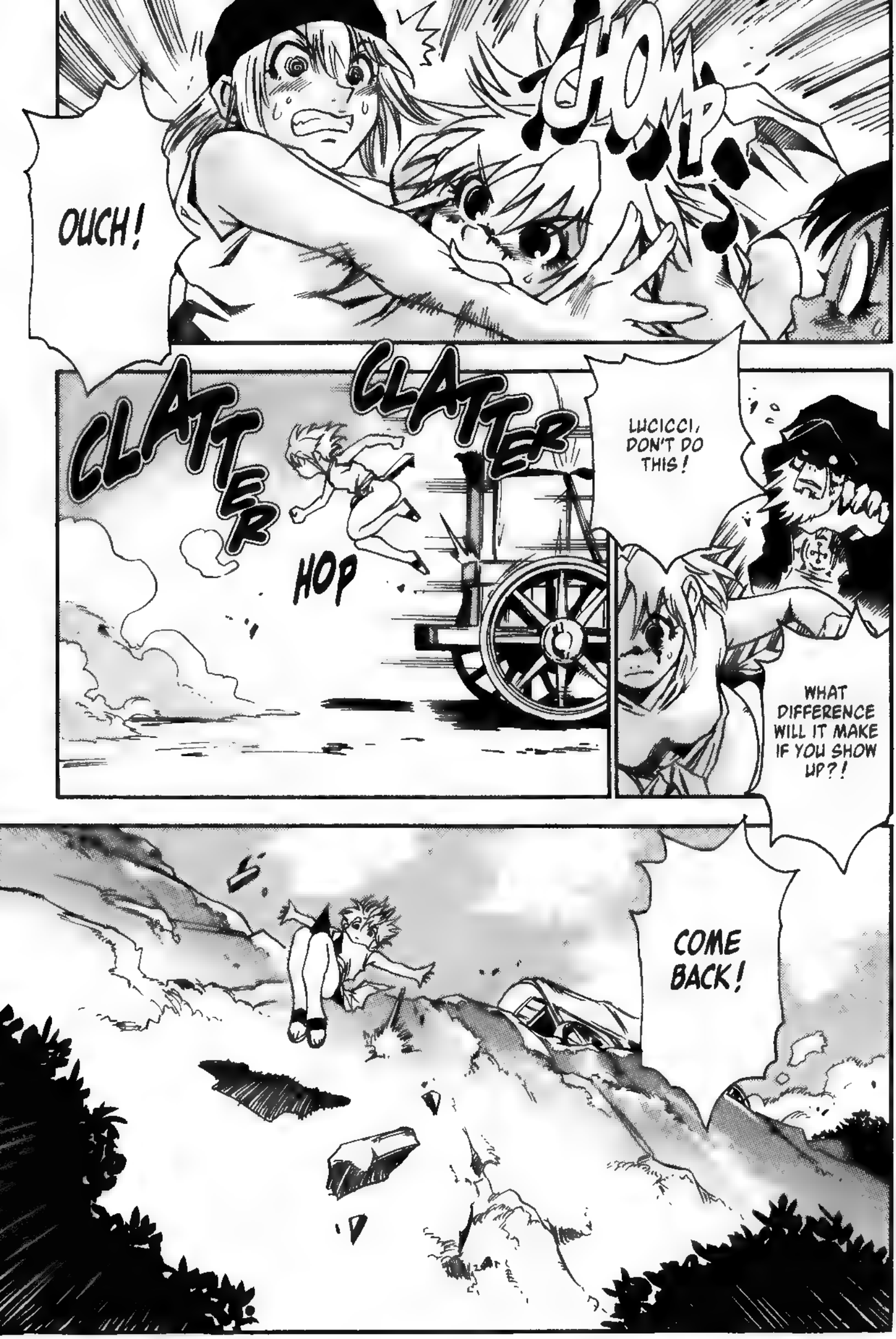
...IS JUST LIKE LEONEDUS.
HE MUST ALWAYS EXPERIENCE THIS MUCH PAIN. WHAT A FOOLISH MAN.

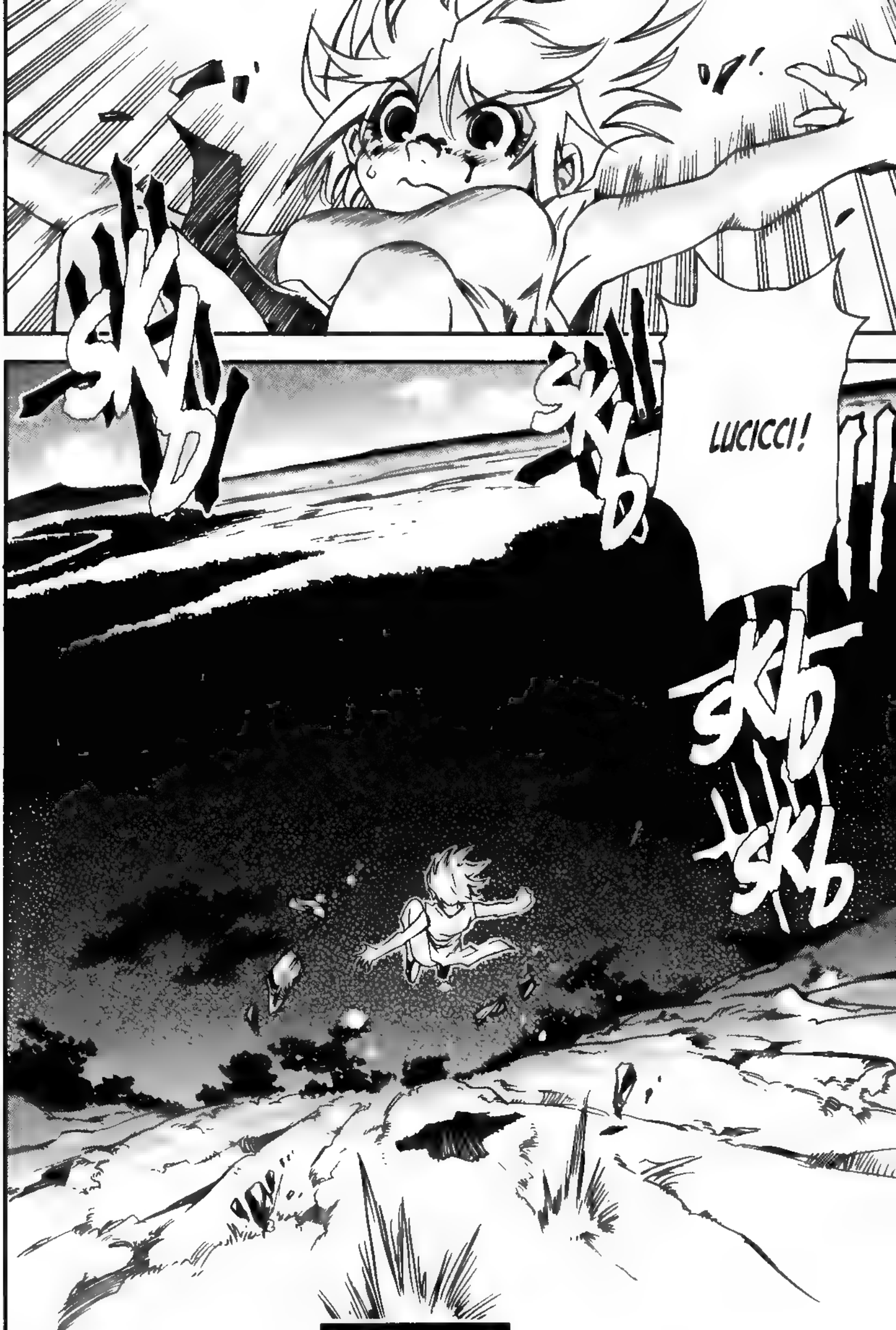
I HAVE ALWAYS CRITICIZED SUCH BEHAVIOR OF HIS.
"IN ORDER TO PROTECT BIGGER MEN, SOMETIMES YOU MAY HAVE TO SACRIFICE SMALL PEOPLE'S LIVES."
"IF YOU WASTE YOUR LIFE PROTECTING THE LITTLE PEOPLE...
"...WHO WOULD BE LEFT TO PROTECT GARRINCHA?"
THIS WAY OF THINKING...
I'M THE FOOL.
IF IT WEREN'T FOR LEONEDUS BEING THERE, I NEVER WOULD HAVE SURVIVED UNTIL THIS DAY.
"I...I FIGHT FOR THOSE I BELIEVE IN.
"THIS IS THE WAY I HAVE CHOSEN TO FIGHT...
"...AND I AM PROUD OF IT."
WHAT IS MY REASON FOR FIGHTING?
WHY AM I FIGHTING TO PROTECT THESE WOMEN...
...WHO JUST A DAY AGO, I WOULD HAVE SENTENCED TO DEATH?

NO... THAT'S NOT WHAT ARSENAL IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABOUT.
I'LL MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU AND END YOUR LIFE NOW.
I'D TAKE PLEASURE IN THIS, EVEN IF IT WASN'T NEO ARSEN'S WISH.
I CAN'T HAVE YOU RUINING MY DELICIOUS FEAST.
I'VE DECIDED. THIS IS MY REASON TO FIGHT.
I WILL NOT LET SOME-ONE LIKE YOU CALL YOURSELF A FOLLOWER OF ARSENAL.
NEO ARSEN'S WISH...?
OH, DEAR. THEY THINK THEY CAN GET AWAY?
YOU BASTARDS, WHO KILL ANYONE WHO STANDS IN YOUR WAY AND CALL IT GOD'S WILL!
I'M NOT LIKE YOU.
I'LL HAVE TO CHASE THEM.
I'LL FIGHT FOR THE ARSENAL TEACHINGS I BELIEVE IN.

IF YOU WANT TO FOLLOW THEM, GO AHEAD AND TRY.

CLATTER
HEY! STOP!
GRANDPA! YOU HAVE TO TURN AROUND!
THEY'LL BOTH DIE!
SHURE IS HURT, TOO!
WAAH!
IF LUCICCI IS THIS UPSET...
...IT'S LIKELY THAT GINORA AND KRISTEN WILL BE DEFEATED.
IF WE WENT BACK, WE WOULD JUST GET IN THEIR WAY.
I'M AS CONCERNED ABOUT THEM AS YOU ARE.
CLATTER
IF THEY FALL, THE ASSASSINS WILL COME FOR US.
RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE TO GET AS MUCH DISTANCE FROM THEM AS WE CAN...


HOP!
OUCH!
CLATTER
CLATTER
HOP
LUCICCI, DON'T DO THIS!
WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL IT MAKE IF YOU SHOW UP?!
COME BACK!




End of 2nd Passage

3rd Passage: Voices of the Innocent
WHACK
SQUIK
DRIP
I'M SURPRISED YOU'VE LASTED THIS LONG.
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALL TALK.
BUT I HAVE TO USE AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD...
...AS I'M GETTING QUITE BORED WITH OUR ANTICS.

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
DASH
DASH
DASH
DASH
HUH?
STAGGER
FLOP
!
TRIP

# 3rd Passage: Voices of the Innocent

GRSP
.....
I FEEL SO MUCH TENSION.
IT'S JUST LIKE HIM AT THAT TIME...
...I SEE IT IN HIS EYES.
SURE.
NO PROBLEM.
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
SHUF

THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. I FEEL IT...
...IT'S HIM!!

HEY THERE...
...LEONEDUS.
WHY THE LONG FACE?
FWAP
YOU LOOK AS IF YOU JUST SAW THE MURDERER WHO KILLED YOUR PARENTS.
HEH HEH...

AS YOUR A FORMER COLLEAGUE, I'LL EVEN GIVE YOU A QUICK AND PAINLESS DEATH.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU SO THAT I CAN CARRY OUT YOUR EXECUTION.
YOU DIDN'T FIND ME-- I FOUND YOU.
LET'S SEE...HOW ABOUT A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED IMPALEMENT?
SO, YOU ALREADY KNEW ABOUT THAT.
OH.
BUT DID YOU KNOW THIS?
...SALAS.
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT...
HAAA

BESIDES... YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE ME, CAN YOU? YOU'RE BLIND.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ALL THE WAY OVER THERE?
DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE A CHANCE OF HITTING ME-- WITH YOUR MIND CLOUDED WITH ANGER?
I CAN SEE YOU PERFECTLY.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT...
YOUR UGLY TRUE SELF.

FWIP
FWIP
I SEE.
BUT CHALLENGING ME IN CLOSE-QUARTERS...
...WAS A BIG MISTAKE ON YOUR PART.
WITH THAT HEAVY WEAPON OF YOURS, YOU'LL NEVER MATCH MY SPEED.
HEH HEH HEH.
DON'T WORRY. I'LL LET YOU REST IN PEACE SOON.
YOU'LL BE REUNITED WITH THAT ROTHO BITCH AND YOUR OTHER FRIENDS SOON ENOUGH... IN HELL.
WOOSH
SLICE

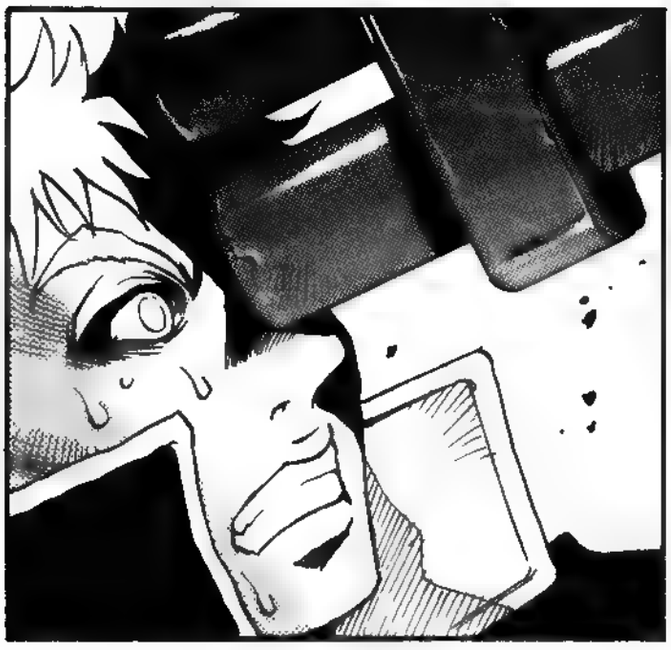
SHING
I'LL CHOP YOUR ARMS OFF.
YOU'RE TOO SLOW.
STAGGER
SLICE
WOOSH
IT'S A PITY YOU CAN'T SEE THE PRECISION OF MY SKILL WITH YOUR EYES, LEONE...
HAHAHA! HOW DID YOU LIKE THAT?

...DUS.
THWACK
...?!

EEEYYAAAH!!
AHH!
AHH!

...ANGER ISN'T ALWAYS A BAD THING IN BATTLE.
SOME-TIMES IT CAN NUMB YOU FROM PAIN...
...AND BLIND YOU TO INSUR-MOUNTABLE ODDS.
THEY DIDN'T TEACH US THIS AT THE GARDEN BUT...
PANT
PANT

DON'T KILL ME! YOU WON THE BATTLE!!
WA-WAIT!



TMP
TMP
TMP

"GOD'S LOVE EXTENDS TO ALL MANKIND."
"NO MATTER WHAT TYPE OF SINNER A MAN MAY BE...
"...THERE IS ALWAYS TIME FOR HIS FORGIVENESS."
UH...
UH...
IS THERE EVEN ROOM FOR FORGIVENESS?
FOR THE MAN WHO KILLED YOU?
DOES HE DESERVE FORGIVENESS?
BUT... THIS MAN STILL APPEARS IN MY EYES...
SP--
SPARE ME...
LEXEUS!
...AS A BEAST.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
NO. YOU'RE NOT READY...
...FOR FORGIVENESS YET.

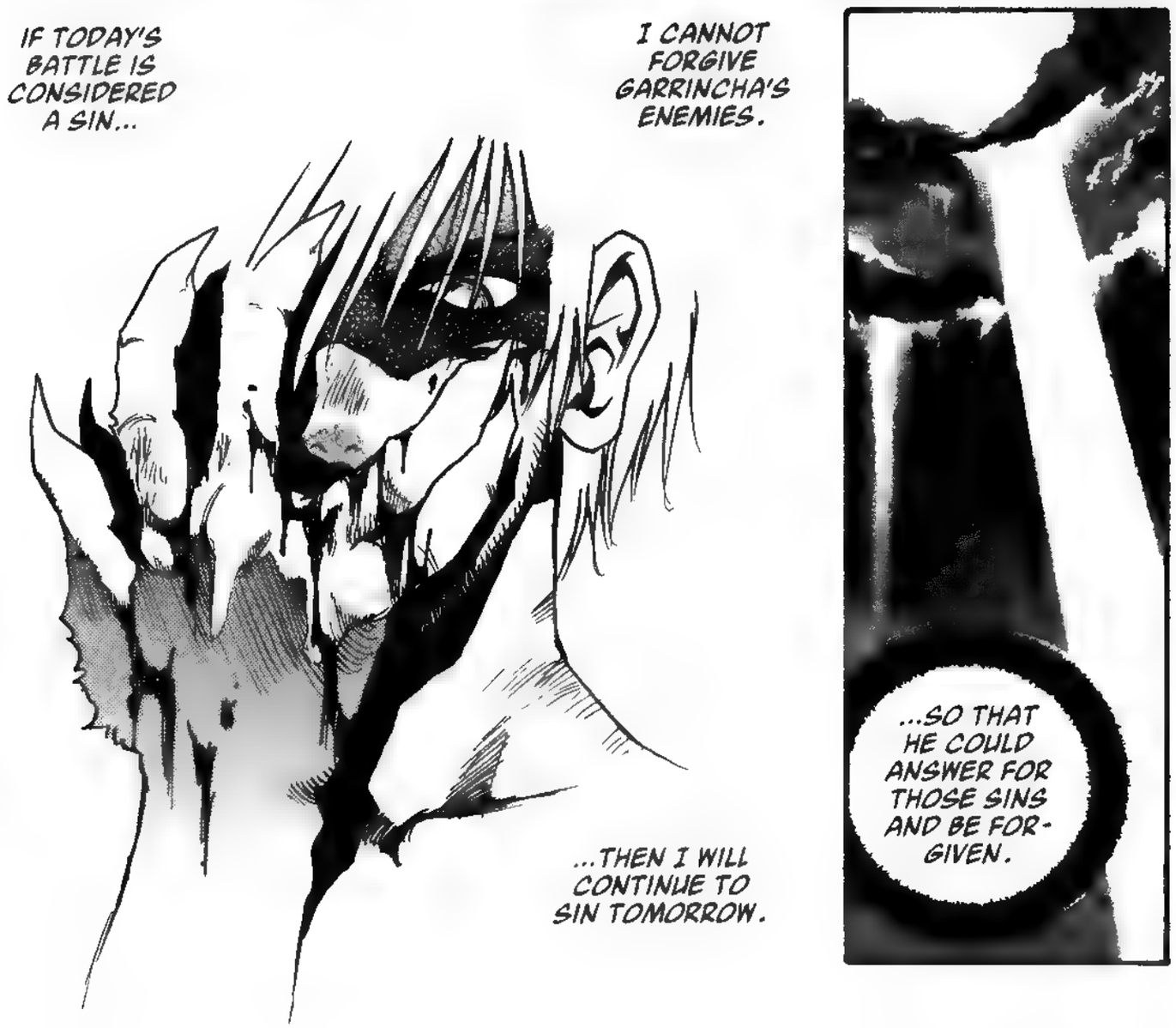
KA-
POW
KA-
POW

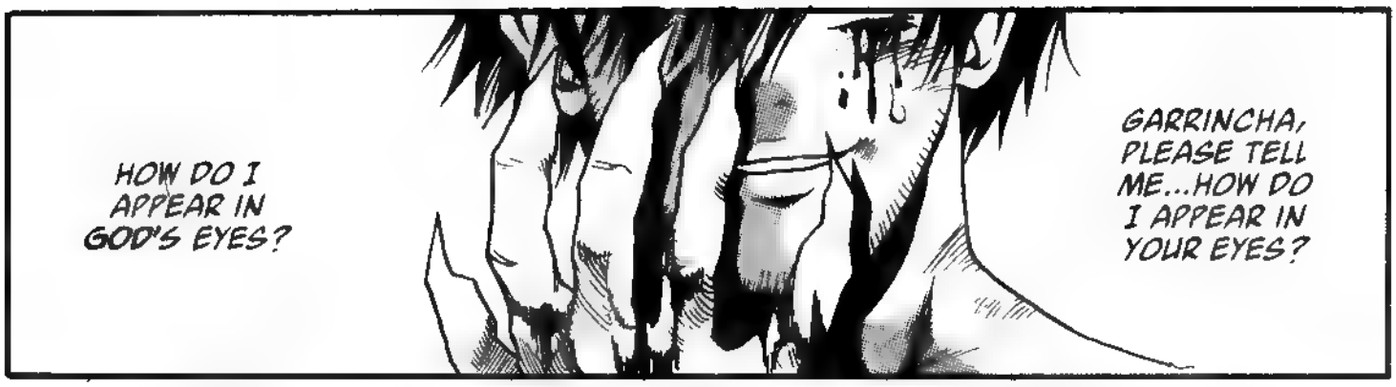
ELDIUS.

EH!
THN
THAK!
THIS ANGRY HAND PULLED THE TRIGGER.
THIS IS MY HAND...

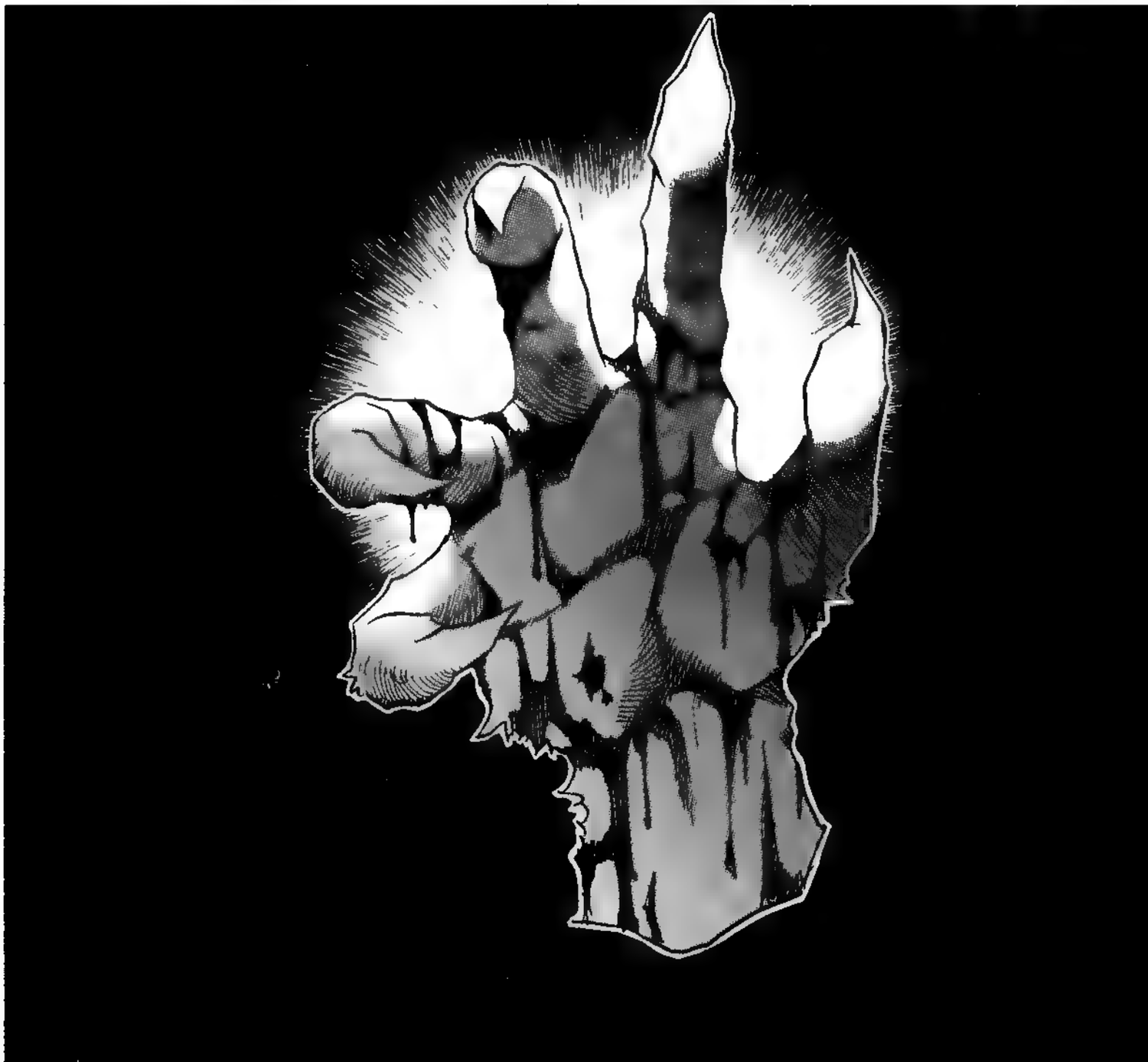
GARRINCHA THOUGHT THAT IF WE WERE TO PASS GOD'S JUDGMENT ON HERETICS...
...WE SHOULD ALSO OFFER THEM FORGIVE-NESS.

AS AN INQUISITOR, GARRINCHA DIDN'T ALWAYS HAVE THE OPTION TO FOR-GIVE...
...AND SO HE FELT AS IF EVERY TRIAL HE CONDUCTED WAS A SIN.
HE CRIED IN HIS HEART...
...AND HE WAITED FOR THE TIME...
...WHEN HE WOULD HAVE HIS DAY IN COURT...

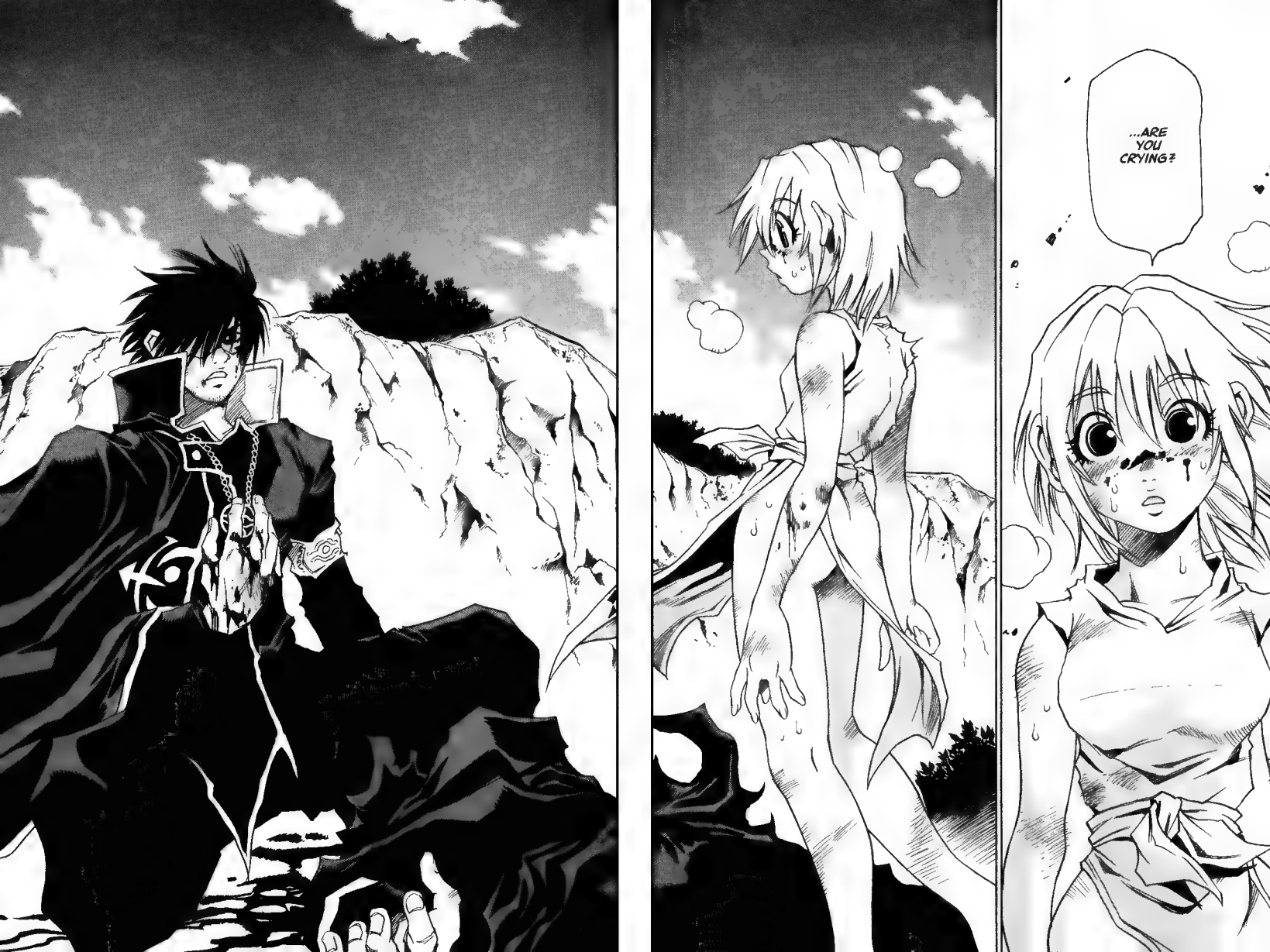

IF TODAY'S BATTLE IS CONSIDERED A SIN...
I CANNOT FORGIVE GARRINCHA'S ENEMIES.
...THEN I WILL CONTINUE TO SIN TOMORROW.
...SO THAT HE COULD ANSWER FOR THOSE SINS AND BE FOR-GIVEN.


HOW DO I APPEAR IN GOD'S EYES?
GARRINCHA, PLEASE TELL ME...HOW DO I APPEAR IN YOUR EYES?

...OR IS IT EVIL?
IS IT GOOD...
PLEASE TELL ME. THE ONE WHO WILL LEAD ME...

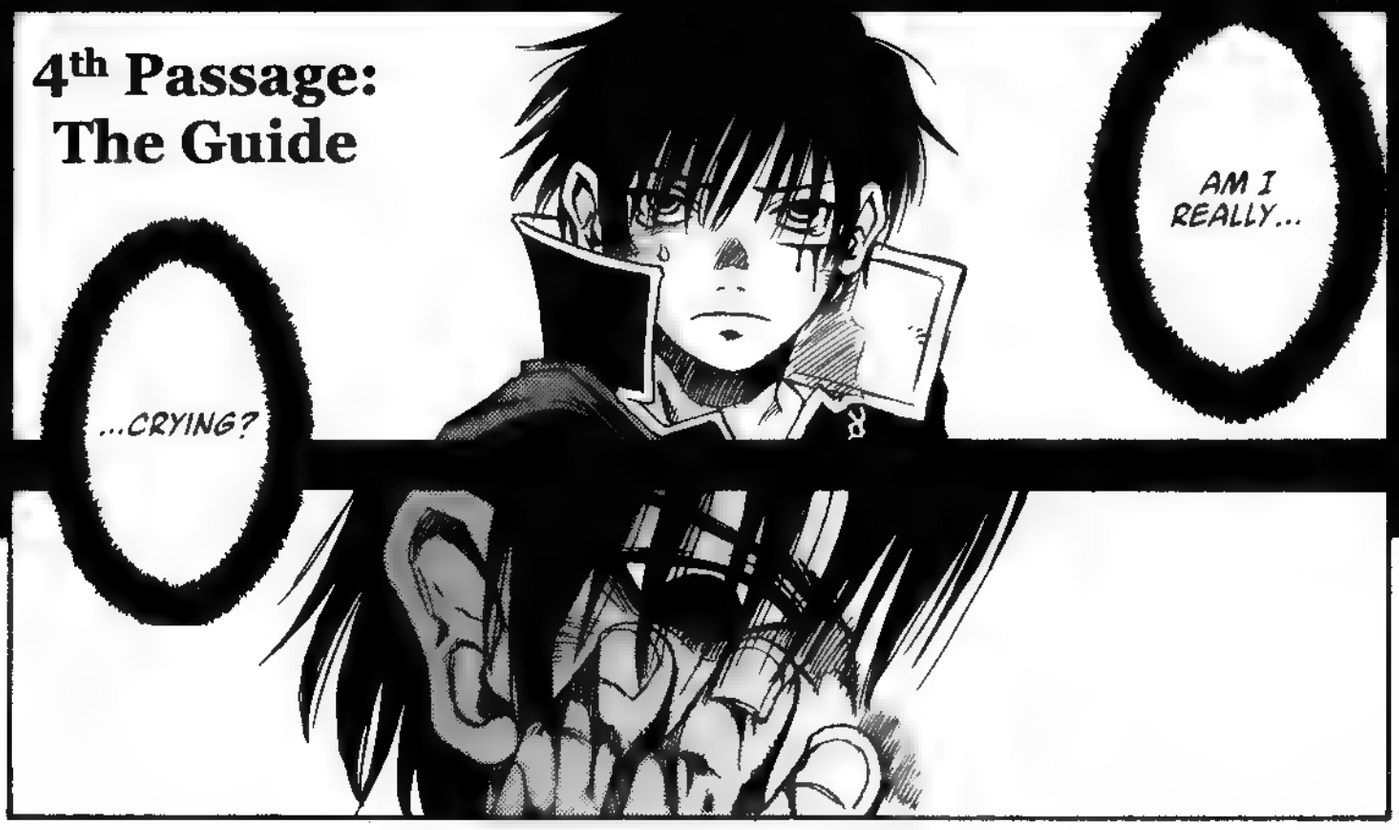


WHY...


...ARE YOU CRYING?

End of Passage 3

# 4th Passage: The Guide

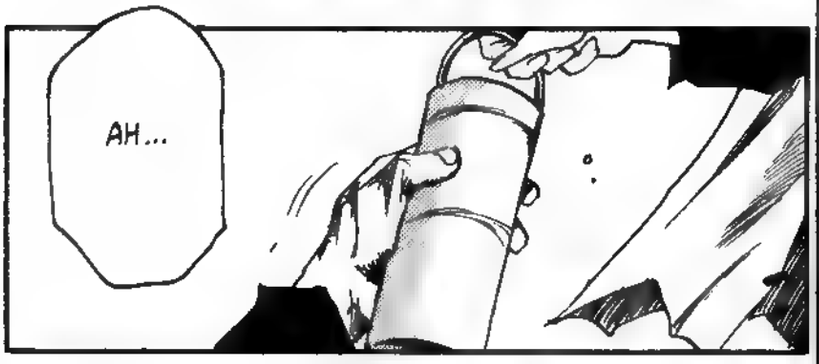


# 4th Passage: The Guide

WHY...
...DID YOU SAY I WAS CRYING?
ZSSH
BECAUSE...
...IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE CRYING.
.....

LEONEDUS.

WOULD YOU LIKE SOME WATER...?


AH...

SHAA

.....

I'VE SEEN MANY PEOPLE DIE IN MY JOB...
...BUT FOR A GIRL HER AGE, IT MUST BE TRAU-MATIC.
I WONDER IF SHE'S OKAY...?

...ARE ALMOST TOO MUCH TO BEAR.
EVEN FOR ME, WITH AS MUCH HORROR AS I'VE SEEN SO FAR, THE THINGS I'VE SEEN TODAY...

SOME-
THING
THAT...
...I'VE
ALWAYS
WANTED TO
SEE IN
HIM.
...THAT
I'VE
NEVER
BEEN
ABLE TO
SEE.
WHO IS THIS
GIRL? IT'S AS
IF SHE WAS
ABLE TO SEE
SOMETHING IN
LEONEDUS...
...ISN'T
AFRAID OF
LEONEDUS.
THAT'S
WHY THIS
GIRL...
WHAT A SHAME...I
THOUGHT I KNEW
LEONEDUS BETTER
THAN THAT.
EVEN THOUGH
I'VE KNOWN
HIM FOR SOME
TIME, HE STILL
FRIGHTENS ME.

.....
AH!
THERE'S SOMEONE DEAD IN HERE.
.....
BZZ
BZZ
BZZ

SALAS AND HIS PEOPLE MUST HAVE THOUGHT THAT TAIBE WAS IN THE WAY OF GETTING THEIR JOB DONE.
THAT'S INQUISITOR TAIBE.
HOW CRUEL...
I SEE...
SO THEY MUST ALSO BE THE ONES WHO...
...KILLED FATHER GARRINCHA.
PLEASE TREAT HIS WOUND.
I FOUND A MEDICINE KIT.
HERE YOU GO.
AH...

THERE WE GO.
SLIDE
BY THE WAY...
...WHY ARE YOU ALL BY YOUR-SELF HERE?
I THOUGHT I SENSED DOGA OVER HERE...
...SO I RAN AS QUICKLY AS I COULD...
...AND FOUND YOU HERE, INSTEAD.

DOGA?
YOU MEAN SORCERER DOGA?
ARE YOU A CHILD OF MATERIA?
!
YEAH.
BUT DOGA ISN'T A SORCERER OR ANY-THING.
EVEN THOUGH I'M AN ARSENAL PRIEST...
...YOU'RE NOT AFRAID TO TELL ME THAT YOU'RE A MEMBER OF MATERIA?
EVEN THOUGH YOU JUST SAW ME KILL SOME-ONE WHO WAS BEGGING FOR FORGIVE-NESS?
OF COURSE NOT.
YOU REMIND ME OF DOGA, SO I'M SURE YOU'RE NOT A BAD PERSON.

I DON'T LIKE KILLING...
...BUT...
...I'M SURE IT WAS SOMETHING IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAD TO DO, RIGHT?

SOMETIMES IT'S THE ONLY OPTION YOU HAVE LEFT.
EVEN DOGA SOMETIMES HAS TO KILL IN ORDER TO PROTECT HIS PEOPLE.
IT SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE JUST GOING THROUGH THAT, TOO.
.....
...BUT I DON'T LIKE TO LIE SO I WAS JUST BEING HONEST.
I STILL DON'T KNOW FOR SURE THAT I CAN TRUST YOU...
I'VE GOTTA GO NOW.
TMP TMP TMP TMP
TURN
DON'T FOLLOW ME, OKAY?
...SURE...
SO YOU CAN'T FOLLOW ME, OKAY?

I WONDER...
...WHAT IT WAS SHE SAW IN ME...?

"WHY...
"...ARE YOU CRYING?"

GASP!
LEONEDUS... ARE YOU CRYING?
...
NO WAY!
I'M NOT CRYING.
WHY DID YOU ASK IF I WAS CRYING...?
BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT I SAW.
I'M USED TO SEEING MY CLASS-MATES DIE.
I WONDER IF I'M STILL NOT TRAINED WELL ENOUGH...?

PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW HOW TO BE SAD WON'T UNDERSTAND OTHER PEOPLE'S SADNESS.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
...BUT CRY WHEN YOU'RE SAD...
...AND LAUGH IF SOME-THING IS FUNNY.
I KNOW IT'S A DIFFICULT THING TO DO AS LONG AS YOU'RE LIVING HERE...
HERE AT GARDEN, THE MORE LOYAL TO THE SCHOOL TEACHINGS YOU BECOME...
...THE GREATER THE BURDEN YOUR FEELINGS WILL BECOME.
...BEING HONEST WITH YOUR-SELF.
DON'T LET OTHER PEOPLE TELL YOU WHAT IS RIGHT, WHAT IS WRONG AND WHO YOUR ENEMY IS.
THIS IS REALLY A SIMPLE THING...
THEY WILL TELL YOU TO GIVE UP YOUR FEELINGS...
...BUT IF YOU DO THAT, YOU ARE JUST LYING TO YOUR-SELF.

YOU ALONE CAN DECIDE WHO YOUR ENEMIES ARE.
JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE IS MY ENEMY DOESN'T MEAN THAT THEY MUST BE YOURS AS WELL.
I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE LOSING GARRINCHA TO OPEN MY EARS TO HIS WORDS...
...AND THAT IT WOULD TAKE A YOUNG GIRL TO MAKE ME UNDERSTAND THEM.
BACK THEN... WITH SALAS...
...WHAT DID I LOOK LIKE TO YOU?
CAPRIA.
AH...
YES?

...AH...
UH...?!
I...
I'M SORRY.
.....
.....
EVEN TO MY OWN EYES...
...I LOOKED LIKE A HIDEOUS BEAST.
IT'S OKAY.
I LOOKED LIKE A DEVIL OR A BEAST, DIDN'T I?

YOU ARE A ROTHO...
...SO WHAT YOU SAW IN ME THEN...
...WAS PROBABLY MY TRUE SELF AT THAT MOMENT.
THERE WERE MANY CONFLICTING THOUGHTS IN ME AT THE TIME.
I'M SURE THAT I LOOKED DIFFERENTLY TO EACH PERSON WHO WAS LOOKING AT ME...
...BUT I'M SURE THE STRONGEST IMPRESSION WAS...
"REVENGE."
THIS WAY OF FIGHTING MAY BE AN ACT AGAINST GOD...
...AND IT MAY ALSO GO AGAINST GARRINCHA'S WILL...
...BUT THAT'S OKAY.

I WOULD FIGHT OVER AND OVER AGAIN...
...LIKE AN ANIMAL...
...SO LONG AS ONE DAY I REACH THE WORLD...
WOOOOOOO
...THAT GARRINCHA AND I HOPED TO LIVE IN.

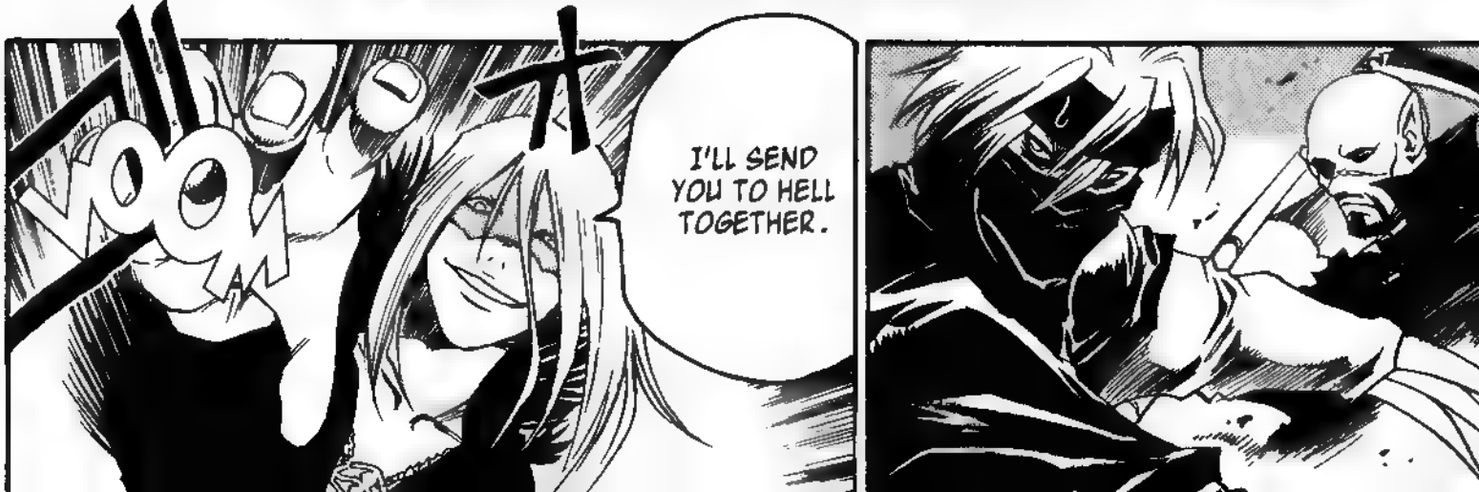
CAPRIA.
CAN YOU FOLLOW THE TRAIL LEFT BY THE SWORD?

YE--
YES!

WOOSH
GASH
!
SLAM
WHA--!
WHAK
PANT
PANT
D-DAMMIT!
100!!

KA!!!
CHING

GINORA! ARE YOU ALIVE?
Y-YOU IDIOT! WHY DID YOU COME BACK?!
WHAT A GOOD GIRL. ♥
!
ヒィィィィ!!


WOOM
I'LL SEND YOU TO HELL TOGETHER.

BLAM
...!

End of 4th Passage

# 5th Passage: Parallel Priests

# 5th Passage: Parallel Priests

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM.
SLIDE...
WE WASTED TOO MUCH TIME...
ALL RIGHT. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
YOU GO AHEAD, LIPPE.
SOLSKIA!
THIS ISN'T GOOD!
DASH

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
!

THUD
THERE'S NO WAY...
...I'LL LET A BASTARD LIKE YOU GET AWAY.

WOOSH
CLICK
NGH!
BOOM
CLANG
SWISH
SPLAT

HOP
HOP
HOP
!
RUSTLE
!
DAMN IT!
IS THIS THE END?!

CRACK
CRACK
ZA
ZASH
VOOSH
VOOSH
!
CRKKLE
CRKKLE
CRKKLE
OOF...!
SLAAAM

TMP
CONGRATULA-
TIONS. YOU'VE
CORNERED A
ONE-LEGGED
MAN...
...YOU
COWARD.

!
GINORA!
CAPRIA!
ZSH
TMP
.....
WHERE'S LEONEDUS?

LEONEDUS!
CLATTER
DO NOT DWELL ON IT, ACOLYTE.
YOUR JOB IS NOT TO THINK.
CLATTER RATTLE CLATTER
LEONEDUS!
I JUST WANT TO UNDER-STAND WHY...
HE SCOLDED ME FOR SHOOTING HER.
EVEN THOUGH SHE TRIED TO KILL US, GARRINCHA WAS ABOUT TO FORGIVE THAT ELYSIA WOMAN.
WHATEVER GARRINCHA WAS THINKING IS NO CONCERN OF YOURS. WE HAVE OUR ORDERS. THAT IS ALL THAT MATTERS.
PERHAPS GARRINCHA WAS TRYING TO CONVERT HER. PERHAPS HE WAS JUST WEAK.

THAT GIRL BELONGED TO THE ELYSIAN TOSTAN SECT.
SHE WOULDN'T CONVERT TO ARSENAL.
THE ONLY PLACE SHE HAD TO GO BACK TO WAS THE TOSTAN SECT.
IF WE DON'T SHOOT HER TODAY, WE WOULD JUST END UP HAVING TO SHOOT HER TOMORROW.
GARRINCHA AND GARDEN PRIESTS LIKE US ARE TWO DIFFERENT BEASTS.
GARRINCHA MUST ACT ACCORDING TO HIS CONSCIENCE.
WE DON'T HAVE A CONSCIENCE.
ALL WE HAVE IS OUR DUTY.
DID YOU KILL GARRINCHA ON ORDERS FROM NEO ARSEN?
SOLSKIA.
OF COURSE.
DO YOU THINK I WOULD HAVE ANY OTHER MOTIVATIONS BESIDES THAT?
SURELY YOU OF ALL PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND.

BECAUSE WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE THE OLD DAYS, I WILL TELL YOU THIS...
...MY DUTY ONLY COVERED A SMALLER PART OF A BIGGER PROBLEM.
KEEP THAT IN MIND.
YOU WOULD BE WISE TO SHOOT ME NOW, LEONEDUS.
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? AS LONG AS WE'RE BOTH ALIVE...
...MY DUTY IS STILL NOT FINISHED.
THE GARDEN IS THE ONLY PLACE I HAVE TO GO BACK TO.
I EITHER DIE HERE IN THE LINE OF DUTY, OR I DIE AT HOME, A FAILURE.

I WOULDN'T WANT TO SEE...
...LEONEDUS SHOOT AGAIN.
BUT... IF I KEEP MY EYES CLOSED TO LIFE...
...I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE ANY-THING.
YOU HAVE IT, DON'T YOU?
UNLIKE ME, YOU HAVE A CON-SCIENCE.
JUST AS GARRINCHA DID.
YOU HAVE A PLACE TO GO BACK TO...
...AND A REASON TO FIGHT.

ドカ
ッ

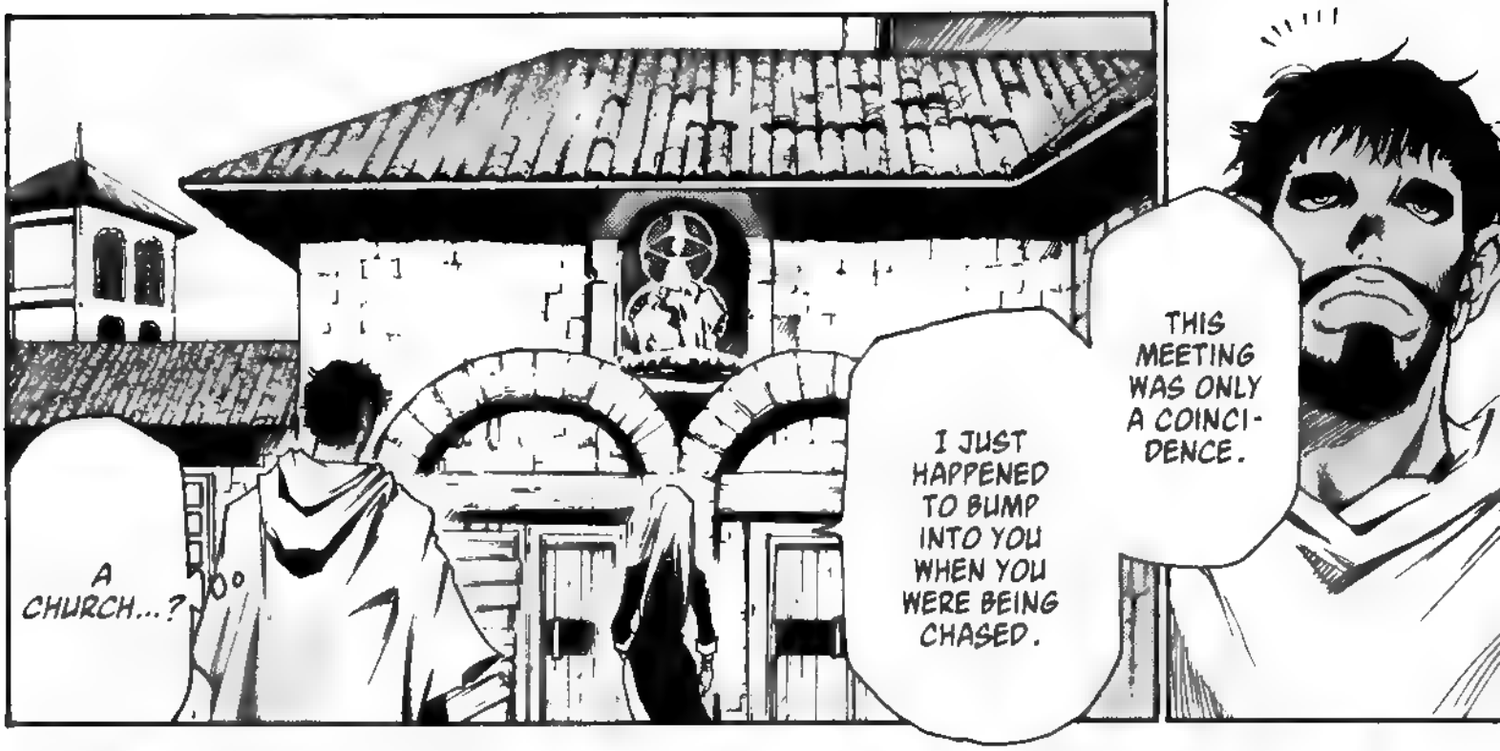
HOW SAD...
.....
...FOR BOTH OF THEM...
GASP
WAAP

SETENBURO
...THE CRISIS THAT THREATENS NEO ARSEN.
I MUST SEE WITH MY OWN EYES...
TAKE OFF YOUR HOOD.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE. THERE'S A FUGITIVE ON THE LOOSE.
CLA
!

!
GAH!
DASH
THA--
THAT'S
HIM!
.....
IF YOU'LL JUST COOPERATE WITH US YOU CAN BE ON YOUR--
THE CRIMINAL IS ABOUT SIX FOOT IN HEIGHT, DARK SKIN...
GET HIM!
HE'S RIGHT THERE!
GRAB
!
HUFF
HUFF
TMP
TMP
TMP

THIS WAY.
I LET YOU GET AWAY.
WHY DID YOU RETURN?
.....
WHO ARE YOU?

SO IT WAS YOU. THIS IS TWO I OWE YOU, STRANGER.
I SEE.
I DIDN'T REALIZE THERE WERE SLUMS LIKE THESE EVEN IN SETEN-BURO.
THIS NEIGH-BOR-HOOD IS SO POOR.
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
I DIDN'T REALLY PLAN...
...ON TAKING YOU ANY-WHERE.


A CHURCH...?
I JUST HAPPENED TO BUMP INTO YOU WHEN YOU WERE BEING CHASED.
THIS MEETING WAS ONLY A COINCI-DENCE.

MARTINA!
AH!
MARTINA!
SFX
SFX

THE PRIEST TAUGHT US HOW TO WRITE LETTERS TODAY.
MARTINA, ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE SUPPER WITH US?
WE'RE HAVING LAMB STEW TONIGHT.
YAY!
WERE YOU BEING GOOD?
MARTINA?
.....

I WONDER IF THIS IS THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF MATERIA?
NO...
I DON'T SUPPOSE SHE WOULD GUIDE AN ARSENAL PRIEST TO THEIR BASE.
CREAK
TAROTH.
WHO IS HE?
HE'S BIG!
THIS WAY...

End of 5th Passage

# 6th Passage: Flame of Purification

I DIDN'T REALIZE HE WAS A DOCTOR...
OH...
YOU'RE A DOCTOR?
MAY I... TAKE A LOOK?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HAVE THEM SLEEP IN A SEPARATE ROOM FROM OTHER CHILDREN.
!
IS IT THE PLAGUE?!
THERE ARE TWO OTHERS, BUT THEIR FEVERS AREN'T AS BAD AS THIS.
DO ANY OF THE OTHER CHILDREN HAVE A FEVER?
THIS ISN'T GOOD...

IT'S BLACK SMALL POX.
THE DISEASE HAS BEEN SPREADING RAPIDLY SINCE THE START OF THE YEAR.
ONCE INFECTED, A PATIENT HAS ONLY A 20% CHANCE OF SURVIVAL.
HERE.
THIS IS ALL I HAVE, BUT PLEASE GIVE IT TO THE SICK ONES.
IT'S NOT A CURE, BUT...I'D SAY IT WORKS PRETTY WELL.
IS THIS...?
YOU CAN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT IT.
GOT IT.
THANK YOU.
DON'T MENTION IT.

.....
COME ON, GUYS. AREN'T YOU GONNA HELP?
WELL... IT'S NOT EXACTLY OUR...
YOU GUYS ARE PRIESTS, AREN'T YOU?
PLEASE HELP ME BURY THEM.

LET'S GO.
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
LUCICC!
YOU ARE SAFE!
I'M RELIEVED...
THESE ARE GINORA'S FRIENDS.
I...I SEE...
SHE PICKED UP MORE OF THEM ON HER WAY BACK...?

EVEN THOUGH THESE HONORABLE BROTHERS AND SISTERS...
...WERE TAKEN FROM OUR WORLD TOO SOON...
...WE MAY REJOICE, O LORD, FOR WE KNOW THAT THEIR SPIRITS ...
...GO TO JOIN YOU IN HEAVEN. ELDIUS.
WHAT?!
WE WILL CREMATE THEM.
YOU'RE GOING TO BURN THEM LIKE CRIMINALS?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
THEN WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?
.....
JUST LIKE HOW YOU BURN US ELYSIA AT THE STAKE?
CREMATION IS DONE TO DESTROY A SINNER'S BODY WHEN THE SOUL WON'T REPENT!
YOU NEED TO BURY THEM UNDER THE GROUND!
THAT'S RIGHT! THAT IS WHY I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU ELYSIA!

.....
THEY AREN'T BEING LAID TO REST AS SINNERS...
THIS JUST... ISN'T THE WAY YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO THINGS.
IT IS BECAUSE OF THE PLAGUE.
WE THOUGHT IT WAS WIPED OUT, BUT IT CAME BACK EARLIER THIS YEAR.
SOME OF THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TAKING CARE OF THE SICK.
THAT IS WHY WE MUST CREMATE THEM.

IF WE BURIED THEIR BODIES WITHOUT CREMATING THEM, IT COULD CAUSE THE PLAGUE TO SPREAD FURTHER.
WE CAN ILL AFFORD TO TAKE ANY CHANCES. ANY CORPSES THAT MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE PLAGUE MUST BE CREMATED...
...IN ORDER TO PROTECT THOSE WHO REMAIN.
ARE... SOME OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS CAMP INFECTED?
THEY ARE.
PLAGUE BEGINS IN THE POOR NEIGHBORHOODS.
IT STARTS WHEN THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE DYING OF STARVATION TO BE PROPERLY BURIED.
SOME SAY THAT RATS OR BUGS THAT FEED ON THE CORPSES HELP SPREAD THE DISEASES.
NO ONE REALLY KNOWS FOR SURE WHY THE PLAGUE HAS RETURNED.
BUT WHAT WE DO KNOW IS THAT CREMATING THE BODIES HELPS PREVENT THE INFECTIONS.

IN THE OLD DAYS, PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT THE PLAGUE WAS BROUGHT IN BY REFUGEES.
SURELY, THEY WERE THE ONES WHO BROUGHT IT INTO THIS COUNTRY IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HOW-EVER...
...THEY ALSO CARRIED MEDICINES THAT COULD CURE THE DISEASES.
ARSENAL CONSIDERED THESE REFUGEES WITCHES. THEY EITHER FLED THE COUNTRY OR DIED AS ELYSIA.
THE MEDICINE DISAPPEARED, BUT THE DISEASE REMAINED.
BUT THE MEDICINE WAS A TYPE OF...
...DRUG THAT WAS BANNED IN THIS COUNTRY.

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY.
STRANGERS COME FROM DISTANT LANDS...
...BRING-ING WITH THEM FOREIGN DIS-EASES...
...AND ARSENAL BURNS THEM AS ELYSIA.
THIS IS THE ORIGIN...
...OF BURNING AT THE STAKE.
HSH!

STAGGER...
.....
EVEN GINORA...
...HAS THINGS HE CAN'T HANDLE.

SHL
WHERE ARE YOU GOING THIS LATE AT NIGHT?
...
I NEED TO BORROW YOUR HORSE.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THE YOUNG PRIEST AND THE ROTHO?
THEY'RE BOTH EXHAUSTED.
THEY NEED THE REST.
SAME COULD BE SAID FOR YOU, AS WELL.
LET ME SEE...
...IF I CAN GUESS WHERE YOUR HEADED.

SETENBURO, RIGHT?
THERE'S STILL SOME TIME BEFORE THE PERSON YOU SEEK ARRIVES IN SETENBURO.
WHY DON'T YOU LET US COME WITH YOU?
THERE IS NO NEED TO RUSH.
KEH HEH HEH...
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
YOU'RE AN INTERESTING MAN...BUT WHY SHOULD I TRUST YOU?
...!!
THE ONE WHO SENT THE ASSASSINS IS PRESENTLY EN ROUTE TO SETENBURO.
YOUR GROUP AND THE ARSENAL ASSASSINS WHO ATTACKED US EARLIER ARE CLEARLY IN OPPOSITION.
NO MATTER WHAT YOUR MOTIVES WERE, YOU SAVED LUCICCI AND THE OTHERS.
LET US NOT BEAT AROUND THE BUSH.
YOUR GOAL IS TO KILL THAT PERSON, ISN'T IT?

I DON'T...
TAROTH LEONEDUS.
.....
...I DON'T REMEMBER INTRODUCING MYSELF TO YOU.
NOT MANY CARRY SUCH A WEAPON.
I KNEW RIGHT AWAY...
...THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SHOT SABATI'S HUSBAND, MEORA.
!
YOU KNEW SABATI?!
SHE USED TO LIVE WITH US.
ANY-HOW...

...LUCICCI WAS THE ONE...
...WHO FOUND THE WOUNDED SABATI AND BROUGHT HER HOME.

JUST AS YOU GUESSED...
...I AM GOING TO FIND THE LEADER OF THE ASSASSINS.
WHO-EVER IT IS HAS A LOT TO ANSWER FOR.
I DON'T CONSIDER US FRIENDS, BUT FOR NOW, IT SEEMS WE HAVE THE SAME ENEMY.
BUT DO YOU FEEL ALL RIGHT...
...DISCUSSING THIS WITH ME? AFTER ALL...

...I SHOT MEORA...
...AND KILLED MANY OF HIS FOLLOWERS AS WELL.
THAT IS WHAT I DO.
BASED ON WHAT YOU'VE SAID SO FAR...
...I'M GUESSING THAT YOUR MASTER, DOGA, IS IN SETENBURO...
...WAITING TO KILL THE ARSENAL ASSASSIN'S LEADER.
YOU ARE CORRECT.
...HALF CORRECT.
.....
SABATI FELT THE SAME WAY.
SHE WAS...
...GRATE-FUL FOR WHAT WE DID.
MEORA WAS ONE OF MATERIA'S TOP LEADERS. YOU CAN IMAGINE...
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME ALL THIS?
DO YOU EXPECT ME TO JOIN YOUR CAUSE?
DON'T YOU HATE ME FOR KILLING YOUR COM-RADES?
...WHAT IT WOULD HAVE MEANT FOR HIM TO BE CAPTURED ALIVE.
.....

REST ASSURED, I HAVE MY OWN SELFISH REASONS FOR TELLING YOU ALL THIS.
BUT I IMAGINE THAT YOU COULD USE OUR HELP JUST AS MUCH AS WE NEED YOURS.
I'M SURE THEY TAUGHT YOU THAT ALL MEMBERS OF MATERIA ARE HERETICS...
...BUT WE HAVE MANY IN OUR RANKS WHO BELONG TO ARSENAL.
WHEN THE TIME COMES...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO JUDGE US FOR YOUR-SELF.
HELP US OR SHOOT US, IT'S YOUR CHOICE.
WILL THIS MAN BE THE ONE TO SAVE OUR CAUSE...
...OR DESTROY IT?

SORRY I'M LATE, ZEBINA.
I BROUGHT SOME FOOD!
HERE.
OPEN WIDE!
FOO
FOO

DRIP
OOPS! SORRY. YOU STILL CAN'T SWALLOW IT.
...
OH...
UM...
...FATHER LEONEDUS!
.....
A PLAGUE VICTIM...

OF COURSE I AM.
...OF CON-TRACTING THE PLAGUE?
AREN'T YOU SCARED...
...THINK OF HOW POOR ZEBINA MUST FEEL.
BUT IF I'M SCARED...

SIP
GUG...

End of 6th Passage

# 7th Passage: Burden of Conscience

...STILL SLEEPING?
IS FATHER LEONEDUS...
YES.
HE PUSHED HIMSELF REALLY HARD THESE LAST FEW DAYS.
WAP
I BROUGHT SOME HERBS.
CAPRIA!
OH...
THANK YOU.

HUH?
WELL... BECAUSE...
WHY DO YOU ASK?
NO, IT ISN'T.
IS IT... RAINING OUTSIDE?

YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST, TOO.
YOU LOOK EXHAUSTED.
I'LL STAY HERE WHILE YOU REST.
STARE

ARE YOU SURE?
...BUT I'LL BE FINE.
THANK YOU...

...
OKAY.
...I'LL BE BACK LATER, OKAY?
IN THAT CASE...

DOZE...
...AS SOON AS YOU'RE WELL...
...YOU'LL RUSH OFF TO BATTLE AGAIN. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.
...EVEN THOUGH YOU LOOK SO PEACEFUL RESTING THERE...
LEONEDUS...

RISE...
YOU ALWAYS... HELP ME...

HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN SLEEPING?
SINCE THE NIGHT WHEN YOU TRIED TO LEAVE FOR SETENBURO, THREE NIGHTS AGO.
YOU PASSED OUT IN FRONT OF ZEBINA'S TENT.
THREE DAYS?!
DO NOT RUSH, FATHER.
YOUR DEPARTURE WILL COME SOON ENOUGH.
IN THE MEANTIME, YOU SHOULD LET YOUR BODY REST.
BY THE WAY... YOU--
YOU'RE BLIND, AREN'T YOU?
YES... THEY POURED POISON IN MY EYES AT SETENBURO.
BUT IN RETURN, THERE ARE THINGS I CAN NOW SEE THAT OTHERS CANNOT.
IT TOOK ME ONE WHOLE DAY TO GET USED TO IT, THOUGH.
JUST ONE DAY...?
WHEN I SEE HIM INTERACTING WITH OTHERS, IT'S HARD TO TELL THAT HE'S BLIND AT ALL. I WONDER WHAT TYPE OF TRAINING HE MUST HAVE GONE THROUGH?

LEONEDUS!
AH!
I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE DEAD.
ARE YOU OKAY TO WALK AROUND?
YEAH...
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WORRY.
BREAK-FAST WILL BE READY SHORTLY!

...!!
THIS IS...?!

...
HUH...?
I'LL TAKE THAT FOR YOU.
YOINK
.....
BY THE WAY...
...LUCICCI.
YES?
HERE.
THIS IS FOR YOU AND THE PREGNANT WOMAN.
IT'S MEDICINE TO PREVENT YOU FROM GETTING ILL. MY FRIEND GAVE IT TO ME.
THERE'S ONLY ENOUGH THERE FOR THREE TO FOUR PEOPLE, BUT IT'S ALL I HAVE.

...LEONEDUS.
YOU CAN JUST CALL ME...
THANK YOU, FATHER LEONEDUS.
THEN, CAN I CALL YOU JUST LEO?
UH... SURE.
HE LOOKS SO CALM.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM THAT CALM BEFORE.
...
YES...
EVER SINCE HE CAME OUT OF THE TENT THIS MORNING...
...HE'S HAD THAT LOOK.

.....
...!
I SAW THE WAY THAT YOU WATCHED OVER HIM, CAPRIA. HE NEEDS YOU, EVEN IF HE WON'T SAY IT.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE CAN DO IT ALONE.
SO...
...WITH A MAN LIKE THAT, YOU CANNOT FIGHT HIS BATTLES FOR HIM.
CAPRIA.
HE WILL RETURN TO BATTLE, THERE IS NO CHANGING THAT.
JUST AS A MOTHER SETTLES HER PROBLEMS BY NURTURING AND A DOCTOR SOLVES HIS THROUGH HEALING...
...LEONEDUS MUST RESOLVE HIS CONFLICTS THROUGH FIGHTING.
THAT IS HIS NATURE.

...
...IS THIS A GOOD TIME TO TALK TO YOU?
TAROTH LEONEDUS...
I'M LISTENING...
I'M NOT SURE WHAT THEY TAUGHT YOU AT ARSENAL...
...BUT MATERIA'S FINAL GOAL IS...
YOU SAW ZEBINA, DID YOU NOT?
HE CAME FROM A VILLAGE IN A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY.
THE VILLAGE WAS FULL OF HERETICS WHO BELONGED TO THE TOSTAN SECT.
WE'RE ALREADY TAKING CARE OF THAT.
THAT'S WHY OUR INQUISITORS EXIST.
...THE ERADICATION OF SANTOGIQUE.

WHEN THE ARSENAL UNIFICATION TEAM ARRIVED, THEY KILLED EVERYONE.
ONLY ZEBINA MANAGED TO ESCAPE.
THEIR METHODS WERE UNDOUBTEDLY SANTOGIQUE IN ORIGIN.
I'M SURE YOU SAW THE RESULTS IN ZEBINA.
NO...!
THEY USED PLAGUE...
...AS A WEAPON?!
MY SUSPICIONS WERE CONFIRMED WHEN YOU TOOK OUT THAT MEDICINE.
THEY DIDN'T TELL YOU...
.....
...ABOUT THE UNITS THAT ARE STATIONED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, DID THEY?
CLENCH
SANTOGIQUE MASTERED THE ART OF KILLING. AT ONE POINT, THEY HAD THE POWER TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD.
ARSENAL HAS BEEN EXPERIMENTING WITH THE METHODS OF EXTERMINATION LEARNED FROM SANTOGIQUE.
CAPRIA.
LET'S GO DO THE LAUNDRY.
SURE.
LET'S GO.

FWIP
HERE WE ARE.
SPLISH
SPLASH
IT'S A HOT SPRING.
OH... WOW.
SHF SHF
SPLOOSH
COME ON IN, CAPRIA!
...AND HELPS YOU RELAX.
THE HOT WHITE WATER MAKES YOU WARM...
!
I SEE... THAT'S WHY SHE WANTED TO...
...BRING ME HERE THIS LATE AT NIGHT.

I FOUND THIS HOT SPRING WHILE PICKING HERBS EARLIER TODAY.
UH...
SHE MUST HAVE FALLEN FROM UP THERE.
PEEK
PEEK
THAT EXPLAINS THE BRUISE ON HER LEG.
THIS FEELS GREAT... THANK YOU.
SURE.
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL.
I WONDER HOW SHE WAS RAISED...?
WHAT IS YOUR MOTHER LIKE, LUCICCI?
SHE'S IN SETENBURO, RIGHT NOW.
I'M GOING TO VISIT HER SOON.
YOU SHOULD MEET HER, TOO.
AH!
CAPRIA!
GLUG GLUG
SPLASH
TAROTH...
ARSENAL'S MISSION IS NO LONGER TO UNIFY THE ELYSIA.
THE TRUE PURPOSE OF THE "UNIFICATION COUNCIL" IS TO GATHER SANTOGIQUE ARTIFACTS FOR PURPOSES OF CONQUEST.

"YOU ALONE CAN DECIDE WHO YOUR ENEMIES ARE."
"SOMETIMES YOU'RE TOO CLOSE TO SEE THE TRUTH.
.....
300 YEARS AGO, NEO ARSEN AND THE CORINTHIANS DEFEATED SANTOGIQUE AND SANTOGIQUE ARTIFACTS WERE SPLIT UP AND HIDDEN AWAY.
IN ORDER TO KEEP THEIR LOCATIONS TOP SECRET, EVERYONE WHO WAS INVOLVED WITH THIS PROCESS WAS EXECUTED.
I HEAR THAT EVEN THE HOLY FATHER AND THE QUEEN DIED WITH THEIR EYES CLOSED FOR THE SAFETY OF THIS ISLAND.
TODAY, THE ONES WHO ARE MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THIS EVENT...
...ARE THE MEMBERS OF...
...MATERIA.

THE CORINTHIANS ARE DESPERATE TO GET THEIR HANDS ON THE ARIFACTS AS WELL.
KAK
AS WE SPEAK...
...THEY ARE TRYING TO FIND OUR LEADER, WHO IS CURRENTLY HIDING IN SETENBURO.
WE CANNOT ALLOW THE ARTIFACTS TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF EITHER PARTY.
I CAN-NOT EXPECT YOU TO BELIEVE ...
...EVERY-THING I SAID RIGHT AWAY.
BUT I BEG YOU...
...PLEASE SEEK OUT THE TRUTH WITH YOUR OWN EYES.
THE TIME HAS COME.
YOU MUST LEAVE HERE FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.
THEY ARE COMING.
THE MEN BEHIND THESE TERRIBLE EVENTS ARE ON THEIR WAY.

ALL RIGHT, FATHER MILA.
I'M TAKING OFF FOR THE NIGHT.
I SEE. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP.
DON'T MENTION IT.
AND I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN SOON...
...DR. SOCRATES.
PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF OUR CHILDREN.
YEAH...
MARTINA...
BE CARE-FUL OUT THERE.
OF COURSE...

ARE YOU OKAY WITH HELPING US?
.....
MY CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR.
CLACK
I KNOW THAT THE REASON I CAME HERE...
...WAS TO FIND MATERIA REBELS.
I'VE ALWAYS HAD DOUBTS ABOUT MY ARSENAL DUTIES.
I ACTUALLY FEEL SINCE COMING HERE, THAT BURDEN HAS BEEN LIFTED.
...I SEE...
...TAKING CARE OF PATIENTS IS FAR MORE MEANINGFUL THAN PASSING JUDGMENT.
FOR ME...

AS A MATERIA SOLDIER...
...I EXPECTED HIM TO PUT UP MORE OF A FIGHT.
MAYBE THESE REALLY WEREN'T GUARDS...
...FOR A MATERIA LEADER.
SLAM
WELL... WE KNOW THAT THE LEADERS HAVE A TATTOO ON THEIR LEFT ARM...
TMP
TMP

TOK
WE'LL FIND OUT FOR SURE ONCE WE TAKE OFF HER CLOTHES...
THMP
End of "th Passage

It started like any other mission. Leonedus and his companions came to Corinthia to quell the heretics and spread the word of Arsenal. Instead, the band of inquisitors found themselves pawns in a vast conspiracy within the church that goes all the way to the top. Now, Leonedus, Capria, Socrates and Dinora are outlaws, working with their former enemies, the Materia rebels, to find out who set them up and why. When Materia's top leaders are captured by Arsenal assassins, it's up to Leonedus to stand against his former masters. The trail of blood Leonedus has left in his life runs deep-can he continue to kill now that he's found his conscience?

THE BIZARRO LIFE OF SANAE KEI
WELL, TIME HAS BEEN PASSING PRETTY FAST. THIS IS ALREADY THE THIRD VOLUME OF TESTAROTHO!
I HAVE CHANGED THE LOOK OF THE COVER DESIGN. WHAT DID YOU THINK OF IT?
I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT AN INCIDENT THAT HAPPEND IN MY HOUSE.
I CALL IT "THE KOWLOON CITY INCIDENT!"
I BET YOU CAN NOW GUESS WHAT HAPPENED!

OVER THE NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 6 MONTHS, I COMPLETED SOME VIDEO GAMES!
...MINE WAS REBUILT EVEN STEADIER ...I HOPE.
DOOM DOOM DOOM
End of the Kowloon Incident
THD THD THD THD THD
BUT WHEN THE REAL KOWLOON CITY WAS KNOCKED DOWN, IT STAYED DOWN...
WELL... AS I FEARED, ONE DAY MY TOWER COLLAPSED.
I GUESS IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO TELL THE NAME OF THE ACTUAL GAME FOR THIS ONE. IT WAS SUPER SCARY.
MY VACATION WAS NEARLY RUINED SO I WENT ON A SHOPPING SPREE AND PICKED UP ZERO. I REALLY GOT INTO THIS GAME,
WHO IS THIS CHAR-ACTER?! CONTROLS WERE SUCKY AS WELL.
MY TAKE ON THE GAME WAS: "SUPER FRUS-TRATING GAME!"
THE FIRST GAME WAS XXXAL XXAR XXXID 2 FOR THE PS2.
SELF-RESTRAINT!!
BUT I'D DEFINITELY PLAY THE GAME AGAIN THRU THE END (THIS TIME, IN THE NIGHT-MARE MODE.) I HIGHLY REC-OMMEND IT.
BESIDES, ZERO HAS A GOOD STORY! I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO PLAY IT AGAIN SINCE I FINISHED THE GAME.
SEE YOU SOON.
I'D BETTER SHUT UP NOW. (LAUGH)
THAT'S IT FOR NOW. I KNOW I SOUND LIKE A COMPLETE OTAKU TALKING ABOUT MY NERDY, BORING LIFE.

# テスタロト④巻予告

Testarotho vol.4

LEONEDUS AND HIS GROUP ARE HEADING TO SETENBURO.




DALGLISH, THE HEAD OF ARSENAL, REJOICED WHEN HE HEARD OF THE DEATH OF LEONEDUS' MASTER, GARRINCHA.

LEONEDUS MAY HAVE ESCAPED HIS ASSASSINS, BUT THERE IS ALREADY A NEW PLOT TO KILL HIM.

IT'S NOT THE CORINTHIAN SOLDIERS YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT.
OUR REAL PROBLEM IS LEONEDUS AND HIS GROUP.
THAT MAN...
...WILL BE A WORTHY OPPONENT, INDEED
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT MATERIA.
IT'S UNDER CONTROL.

MEANWHILE, SOCRATES, WHO HAS BEEN SEPARATED FROM THE TEAM, HIDES OUT IN SETENBURO.
I HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE OFF THE MASK I HAVE WORN ALL MY LIFE.
BY DOING SO, I HOPE TO SHOW THESE CHILDREN...
...AS MANY SMILES AS THIS OLD MAN CAN MUSTER.
SOCRATES MET TAROTH MILA, A MATERIA PRIEST WHO TAKES CARE OF ORPHANED CHILDREN.
...ARE SCARED OF YOUR FACE.
NONE OF THE CHILDREN HERE...
BUT...
...THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MEDICINE TO STEM THIS OUT-BREAK.
TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE...
...CHILDREN WITH LESS PHYSICAL STRENGTH ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE INFECTED WITH THE VIRUS.
WITH THE POWER OF THIS DISEASE, SMALL CHILDREN MAY BE KILLED BY FEVER ALONE.

THE TENSION IS STRONG ENOUGH TO SHAKE THE EARTH! FAITHS WILL BE SHATTERED IN THE STUNNING FOURTH VOLUME!

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**Jake Forbes**
Adaptation

**Austin Holzmeier**
Lettering

**Larry Berry**
Design

**Ben Abernathy**
Editor



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**WITH EYES THAT CAN SEE THE SOULS OF MEN, LEONEDUS FINDS ANGELS IN THE MOST UNEXPECTED PLACES...**

*Leonedus's master is dead, his friends lost, his eyes blinded, and now his own people are trying to assassinate him. Trapped behind enemy lines, Leonedus and Capria find solace where they least expect it—with the very Materia rebels they came to exterminate. All his life, Leonedus has performed his duty. Now, the outcast priest must learn to see with his heart what his eyes cannot. Will what he sees shake his faith enough to destroy it?!*

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